

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To Fred who made this book possible.

To Maynard whose technical help and advice ironed out the rough spots.

To Tony whose time we often wasted.

To Nils for the art work.

And to the many others who contributed in a variety of ways to see the project through.

Salud

VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

This is book number 432 of a limited edition of one thousand.

This volume represents the first of several to be published under the sponsorship of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. In each volume historic material dealing with the war that was fought in Spain from 1936-1939 will be presented in a form worthy of its importance as source material for an understanding of our times.

The plates for this book were made directly from the original publication which was printed in Madrid and Barcelona. Lack of clarity in the photographs and errors in the copy are due to the poor quality of the paper and the fact that it was set originally by Spanish printers who knew no English.

Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade
23 West 26th Street
New York, N. Y.

AN INTRODUCTION

This is an historical record. It represents the complete file of a publication known as *The Volunteer for Liberty*—official organ of the English-speaking battalions of the International Brigades which fought for the Republic during Spain's Second War of Independence, 1936-1939.

The XVth International Brigade was composed of American, British and Irish, Canadian, Cuban and Puerto Rican volunteers, and the units which made it up were known, respectively, as the Lincoln, British, Mackenzie-Papineau and 24th Battalions.

The Volunteer for Liberty was written for and by these men. Its first issue was published in Madrid on May 24, 1937, and its sixty-third and last in Barcelona on November 7, 1938. The purposes of the publication were manifold. It was at one and the same time a weekly (and later, a sporadic) newspaper which carried editorials, foreign and domestic news, interviews, photographs, maps and cartoons, jokes and war correspondence—and it was also an instrument of propaganda and morale for the men for whom and by whom it was written.

Ralph Bates, the British novelist, was its first editor. Edwin Rolfe, the American poet, was its second. John Tisa, an American worker, was its last. All three had frontline experience with the Brigade in addition to their literary and journalistic background. Having been close to the men in the ranks they knew what these men wanted in a newspaper; being close to the Spanish people in the "rear", their editorial talents were enriched by contact with the people their comrades had come to defend.

In its efforts to meet deadlines, the paper encountered almost insuperable difficulties. It was first published on a coated stock, but by September of 1937 it had to print on any kind of paper that could be found. Its press runs were delayed by incessant interruptions of power—Madrid and Barcelona were regularly shelled and bombed throughout the war. Its photographers in the lines found it almost impossible to get film, and when film was available the chemicals used for developing and engraving were frequently unobtainable. Contact with the Brigade was difficult to maintain; mails were delayed for weeks, couriers never reached the rear, frontline correspondents who were at the same time soldiers in the line were killed.

The reader will discover the close and immediate connection between the paper and the frontline as he reads. *The Volunteer* tried to meet a weekly deadline and throughout the year 1937 it was successful. By January of 1938, however, when it began to publish in Barcelona—where the government of the Republic had been transferred by the exigencies of combat—it rarely met a weekly deadline and rarely published in its accustomed size—eight pages.

That was the winter when the preponderance of German and Italian material began to make itself felt at the front. The month of March was to see the break-through, and during that period *The Volunteer* frequently appeared merely

as a broadside leaflet, carrying communiques from the fronts and exhortation by government and military officialdom. Reflecting the decimation of the international volunteers and their replacement by Spanish cadres, the paper began for the first time to appear partly in Spanish and partly in English. When the fronts were stabilized to a relative degree in the summer of 1938, a more regular edition again appeared.

The last issue was printed to commemorate the withdrawal of the Internationals from Spain in November of 1938. Dr. Juan Negrin had appeared before the League of Nations and announced that his government was withdrawing all foreigners from its ranks. This move exposed to the world the hypocrisy of the contention that there were "foreigners on both sides" in what is still erroneously called the Spanish "civil" war. For the Internationals, who were truly volunteers, never numbered more than twenty-five thousand men (and no more than six thousand ever saw action at one time), while the fascist "volunteers" arrived from Italy in entire divisions and army corps. In addition most of Franco's high ranking staff officers, pilots, tankists, artillerymen and communications specialists were German.

The nature of the struggle which took place in Spain—and which was one of the turning points of modern history—is brilliantly reflected in these pages. If the reader is impressed by names, he will find them here. He will find poems by Rafael Alberti, Langston Hughes, Antonio Machado, Edwin Rolfe,—and by anonymous soldiers in the ranks of the American, British and Canadian battalions.

He will find reportage, signed articles, interviews and statements by Leland Stowe, Dorothy Parker, Vincent Sheean, Alexei Tolstoi, Heinrich Mann, J. B. S. Haldane, Ernst Toller, Andre Marty, Golubiev, the Soviet military commentator, and Hannen Swaffer, the British journalist. Analyses of the military situation were written for *The Volunteer* by Luigi Gallo, who is known to history as Luigi Longo; and by Negrin, Manuel Azana, Luis Companys, Dolores Ibarruri (La Pasionaria), and by the people's commanders, Lister, Modesto and Pedro Merino.

But with all deference to these front-page names, it was the anonymous volunteer who wrote the history of the

XVth and the other International Brigades, and who wrote the majority of these pages. He wrote them at night by the light of a carefully shielded candle; he wrote them during rest periods between action; he wrote them in the hospital and on leave and he wrote them in the lines themselves whenever the fire was not too hot. He was the first "combat correspondent" of the anti-fascist war.

Here are the colors and the sounds of battle action, the stench and the pain. Here are the psychological reactions and insights of many men, each an individual in his own right and each a dedicated man in the sense that he belonged to an organization unique in human history. No one paid the men of fifty-seven nations to come to Spain to fight for the Republic. Most left their countries "illegally"—many escaped from concentration camps or left nations in which they were voluntary exiles from fascism. All came to Spain because they felt that the cause of Spain was "the cause of all progressive mankind."

Therefore it was no accident that in the partisan movement which later sprang up throughout Nazi-occupied Europe, the leadership was frequently in the hands of men who had fought in the International Brigades. The liberator of Warsaw was a Pole named Swierczewski who was known in Spain as General Walter and who commanded the 35th Division of the Spanish Republican Army, to which the XVth belonged. France knows and honors Colonel Rol Tanguy who liberated Paris; Sabi Dimitroff was the partisan hero of Bulgaria; Dr. Norman Bethune, the Canadian originator of the blood bank system, who served in Spain, died in China with the 8th Route Army; and the names of Hodza, Vidalis, Dispy, Larsen, Hansen, Branson and Rodimtsev are household words in Albania, Greece, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Great Britain and the Soviet Union.

It is a matter of pride to the American veterans of the XVth Brigade that one of our country's outstanding heroes of World War II was Herman Bottcher. Promoted from sergeant to captain in the field, holder of the Distinguished Service Cross and Oak-Leaf Cluster, and many other decorations, Bottcher will be remembered by the American people as the one-man Army of Buna and Leyte.

Of the three thousand Americans who served with the Lincoln Battalion in Spain, some twelve hundred survived that first battle against international fascism. They had hoped, by enlisting in that war, to help stop the spreading plague of Nazism. They believed that if Spain fell, World War II would be inevitable. They take no comfort from the fact that they were right. They would vastly prefer to have been wrong; for if they had been wrong the world and its people would have been spared that second holocaust and the torture, mutilation and death of millions of its best sons and daughters.

When that war became inevitable, six hundred American veterans of the war in Spain were enrolled in the American Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force. Three hundred more served in the fighting merchant marine. Their losses were considerable and their honors many, but they achieved neither by the simple process of induction. For to the shame of American "non-intervention" in the war in Spain—which had guaranteed the death of the Republic—our government now added the additional stigma of discrimina-

tion against the men who had hoped to spare America from war by fighting for that Republic.

Man after man, upon induction, found himself labeled a "premature anti-fascist" and secret orders held all Lincoln veterans within the continental limits of our country for over a year. Many vets were recommended for Officers Candidate School but were never permitted to complete their courses. Others graduated with high honors, only to be sent back to counting nurses' uniforms in station hospitals, checking requisitions for QM outfits, or to other equally meaningless jobs.

The promotions—and the medals—came later. But some future American administration will have to redress the lasting wrong that was done to Milton Wolff, last commander of the Lincolns, who was sent to a camp comprised of German and Italian nationals and literally had to fight his way out—eventually to be picked up by General Donovan of the O.S.S. and sent to Italy to join his former comrades Irv Goff, Vince Lossowski, Mike Jiminez and Irv Fajans, who were working with the Italian partisan movement.

Some future American Administration will have to do more than grant Joe Hecht a posthumous Silver Star for heroism in Germany. For Hecht spent eighteen months in the United States filing cards, scrubbing hospital floors and polishing brass before his loyalty to his country could be demonstrated by a single-handed attack on a Nazi machine-gun emplacement in an effort to save the men of the platoon he commanded.

Our people honored Bob Thompson with the Distinguished Service Cross for his work in the South Pacific. But as this introduction is being written, he and his comrade John Gates are suffering prosecution for "advocating and teaching the overthrow of the government by force and violence." In their own good time, our people will make amends for this.

Our people, too, will make such amends as they can for the discrimination visited upon Julius Hene, who died in Germany, Sid Kurtz, who was killed over India, Ernest Koslowski, who died on Leyte with Bottcher, Bill Allender, Jerry Weinberg, Ben Gardner, Sidney Rosenblatt, Larry Lustgarten, Andrew Miltiades, Dave Altman, John Delehanty, Joe Gordon and the many, many others who perished on land, in the sea or were shot out of the air defending their government "by force and violence."

For the one thing all these men cherished in their hearts was an undying hatred of fascism in whatever form it manifested itself—in Spain, or in our own America. As long as they lived they fought to make good the pledge they gave when they left Spain—never to abandon the Spanish people to their butchers; never to forget the struggle that continues to this day on the Iberian peninsula.

Five hundred thousand of the people of Spain itself escaped over the Pyrenees when the German and Italian artillery and planes blasted a way into Barcelona in January, 1939. Of this half-million human souls—men, women and small children—no more than a hundred and eighty thousand live today—in France, in Mexico and other South American countries. And if the American Army's treatment

of our American veterans of the war in Spain was shameful, the treatment of the half-million patriots who escaped from northern Spain ten years ago represents an act of infamy that can never be erased from the conscience of the world.

For these people, whose three year fight within a blockaded country had aroused the admiration of the world, were permitted to die like flies. They died of their wounds, of dysentery, malnutrition, exposure and influenza in the French concentration camps of Gurs, Le Vernet, Barcares, Prats de Mollo and Argeles-sur-Mer.

They died as slaves on the Nazi trans-Saharan railroad, and in the labor camps and Dachaus of the Third Reich. They died in the F.F.I., fighting for the French Republic which had betrayed them and their Republic when there was still a chance to win.

They have died since then of tuberculosis, overwork and semi-starvation in liberated France, in Mexico and North Africa. Many, like Luis Companys, former President of Catalonia, and Jose Gomez Gayoso, have been executed by Franco. Others like Santiago Alvarez have been imprisoned for their work in the Spanish Resistance, which has grown every day since 1939 and will eventually accomplish the overthrow of the last surviving Axis partner.

Much of their suffering as combatants and non-combatants from 1936 through 1938 will be found reflected in the five hundred and forty pages which follow this introduction. Much of their pride and simple dignity and courage will be found reflected too, and their understanding of the role that was played in Spain by the International Brigades. During the last parade the Brigades held—in Barcelona on October 29, 1938—the people broke through the police lines, weeping without shame, strewing flowers in the path of the departing volunteers, hugging and kissing them as they marched.

What these people felt that day was perhaps best articulated by the great woman whose name is an international symbol of the fighting heart of Spain, La Pasionaria:

"Mothers! Women! When the years pass by and the wounds of the war are being stanchd; when the cloudy memory of the sorrowful, bloody days returns in a present of freedom, peace and well-being; when the feelings of rancor are dying away and when pride in a free country is felt equally by all Spaniards, then speak to your children. Tell them of these men of the International Brigades.

"Tell them how, coming over seas and mountains, crossing frontiers bristling with bayonets . . . these men reached our country as crusaders for freedom, to fight and die for Spain's liberty and independence. . . . They gave up everything: their loves, their countries, home and fortune; fathers, mothers, wives, brothers, sisters and children and they came and told us: 'We are here. Your cause, Spain's cause, is ours—it is the cause of all advanced and progressive mankind'."

These people—the Spanish people—those who survive today in exile or within the confines of the vast concentration camp which is still Spain, understand better than any other peoples the nature of fascism. And they also understand better than any other peoples the great secret weapon Hitlerism brought to such perfect flower: the weapon of anti-communism. For it was anti-communism that destroyed their Republic. It was anti-communism in the name of Christianity that slaughtered a million and a half Spaniards from 1936-1939. And it was anti-communism that made it possible for the Axis to conquer most of Europe before a shot had been fired in World War II. They know, too, that today, behind the facade of anti-communism, World War III is being prepared.

But since they know these things so well, they also know that the enemy they fought in Spain—the enemy that still survives the Axis—is not nearly so worried about communism as it is worried about the extension of democracy. For it was not communism that was destroyed in Spain, any more than it was destroyed in Germany or Italy or Japan when fascism took power. It was democracy—the simple aspirations of the people for security, for decency, for peace. It is these aspirations, articulated ever more sharply and fought for ever more desperately, which the enemy today is attempting to suppress in Greece, in Palestine and Indonesia, in Indo-China, in the Marshall Plan countries and in great China as well as in America itself.

And the Spanish people know that the enemy cannot win. The partisans in the Greek mountains grow stronger despite reports of their imminent liquidation. Despite American aid to the reactionaries of Britain and France, Holland, Belgium and Italy, the people are restless and dissatisfied. Despite the support the Arabs have received from British intervention and American connivance, the Jews of Palestine will win their independence. The "dead" Republic of Indonesia is a very active corpse, indeed. And the Chinese "bandits" are about to liberate four hundred million people from the tender ministrations of foreign capital and domestic quislings.

And so it is in Spain, in spite of all the money that is being poured into the Peninsula to prop the tottering fascist Franco. It is simply a matter of time before the people of Spain reclaim their Republic and reconstitute it on a firmer basis than it enjoyed from 1931 to 1939.

When that time comes, the prophecy which was made in a slogan and displayed on many banners in Madrid during the war will have come true. For the war which began in Spain will have ended in Spain, and the slogan MADRID WILL BE THE TOMB OF FASCISM, will have been realized.

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The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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THE HISTORY OF THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS

On Saturday, May 15, the Spanish Government resigned. At once party and trade unions leaders began their consultations with President Azafia. All organizations demanded a Popular Front Government, but the following definite demands were made.

The Socialist Party asked for a complete change in policy on the part of the ministry of Gobernacion (Public Order, etc.).

The Basque Nationalist Party proposed that a Socialist, able to inspire confidence abroad, should be Prime Minister and that the control of land, air, and marine forces should be vested in one minister of war. This party also stated that Largo Caballero had

Spain Behind The Popular Front GOVERNMENT'S NEW PROGRAMME OF ACTION

EDITOR'S NOTE

In presenting this first number of the Volunteer of Liberty in English, the editor wishes to explain the policy that will be followed. Conversations with comrades in the front line has shown that there is a demand for the following; Background articles, explaining the history and set-up of the Spanish progressive movements, to serve as a basis for discussion: serious news articles describing the Spanish situation with greater detail than the daily bulletin can give; and Home news. This latter is very difficult to obtain but real attempts are being made to get an English and American news service.

In addition, some have asked

for humor (which can hardly be expected of a political commissar, until he has recovered from his work), for working class and revolutionary songs, and here and there for revolutionary short stories. A few comrades have suggested that articles on military technique should be published from time to time.

At the same time it is far more important that comrades should join in the production of their own magazine, both by writing and by suggestion, than that an editor should simply provide what he thinks best. Comrades please note. And out of their kindness, remember that the editor also hates the word Mafiana.

N. T. and the U. G. T. were in agreement about the posts Largo Caballero should occupy.

Toward evening of Saturday the Communist Party put an eight point document before comrade Largo Caballero. The following are the most important items.

1. Democratic direction of the country, in military, economic, and political matters, with collective discussion and decision by the cabinet.

2. The Supreme War Council must function normally and is to occupy itself with every military enterprise, jointly with the Minister of War. Appointments to command, condition and armament of the troops, conduct of operations, etc., were to be the field of this council.

3. Immediate re-organisation of the General Staff and appoint-



Dr. Juan Negrin, new Prime Minister.

lost the confidence of the Popular Front Parties.

The left Republican Party also demanded a centralized war ministry.

The C. N. T. declared that the Government should be primarily

based on the trade unions (syndicates) and should be headed by Largo Caballero; it should have the assistance of the anti-fascist block.

The Catalan Left Party wished the new government to be in closer contact with the Cortes (the Congress or Parliament).

As a result of this conversation, at 2:15 P. M. comrade Largo Caballero was entrusted with the task of forming the government.

During the afternoon the C. N. T. issued a statement which declared:

1. It declined responsibility for the present crisis.

2. It would not enter any government in which Largo Caballero was not both Prime Minister and Minister of War.

3. The new government must be based on the syndicates (unions) with collaboration of the political parties.

(N. B.--Anarco-syndicalist theory declares that the working class has no need of a political party. Until February 1936, the C. N. T. has not voted at elections.)

The Executive Committee of the U. G. T. also announced that it would not enter any government in which Largo Caballero was not Prime Minister and Minister of War. Then the leaders of the C.



Indalecio Prieto, new Secretary of War.

ment of a Commander in Chief, responsible to the Supreme War Council, and the Ministry of War, but with authority to plan and direct the whole of the Military

(Continued on page 6)

MADRID UNDER FIRE

The shelling of Madrid is one of the most wanton acts in the history of a war waged with pitiless ferocity by the fascist invaders.

There is no military objective in the shelling, but the fire of the fascists is directed upon the busiest parts of Madrid (around the Grand Via and Puerta del Sol) where it is likely to cause the greatest destruction to its beautiful buildings and the highest casualty roll among its civilian population.

The fascist's realizing that their march on Madrid is proceeding backwards, seek to destroy the city and terrorize the population. Such a hope will never be realized. There is less panic in Madrid today than at any period of the war.

On the contrary the intense hatred of the people of Madrid towards Fascism is hardening as they see their women folk and children killed and maimed in the streets, and the city created by their own labors and of which they are rightly proud, being destroyed by these modern vandals.

Everywhere one meets with the indignation of the people against this futile destruction, but never with fear. One cannot help being amazed at the courage shown by these citizens and above all by the women.

This is clearly shown by the reluctance of the population to evacuate the capital despite the efforts of the Government to induce them.

GOVERNMENTS POLICY OF EVACUATION

Government officials go from house to house in an attempt to convince people that it is necessary for them to leave the city in

At the same time within the city itself, the government has removed a great many families from the districts which have suffered most from the bombardment, mainly into the districts



This and accompanying photographs show a shell striking in the Gran Via



order to shield the women and children from the worst horrors of the war and to alleviate the difficulties confronting the Government in feeding such a large population.

Prior to the outbreak of war the population of Madrid was estimated at 1,000,000 but within a few short months had been increased by 500,000 refugees.

Today there is approximately 900,000 left. Some 600,000 people have been evacuated, mostly the refugees from the neighbouring villages and of this total 200,000 were children and the remainder women and old men. Two hundred thousand more are to be evacuated soon. The government which is financing this evacuation is making particular provision for the care of all invalids, school children and orphans.

and houses once occupied by the well-to-do.

Madrid stands firm against the fascist terror. The life of the city goes on scarcely interrupted by the frantic shelling of the fascists and the fighting close at hand. Cafes, theatres and cinemas are packed. The streets are thronged with people except during the periods of shelling which are a deadly reminder of the danger close at hand.

NEW GOVT'S DECISION

The new Government clearly realizes this danger. Immediately it announced that the process of evacuation will be considered as one of its foremost tasks and that it will take immediate steps to convince the population and speed up this necessary work.

Meanwhile the population pre-

Our Aviation Effective

VALENCIA. — The Ministry of Navy and War publishes the following information concerning the activities of the Republican Aviation during the month of April. The Republican Aviation made two bombing flights over enemy aviation fields, 168 flights over troop concentrations and camps and 44 over military objectives.

The fascists made during the same month 37 flights over our positions and 70 over open cities and towns. These last flights and bombings had no military value whatever.

Our fliers brought down 20 fascists and we lost 4 machines.

Alvarez del Vayo goes to the League of Nations

Alvarez del Vayo, Minister for the Interior in the outgoing Largo Caballero cabinet, is slated to go to Geneva as a special representative of the Spanish Republican Government at the League of Nations.

Alvarez del Vayo filled his position in the Caballero Cabinet with energy and intelligence. His appointment to Geneva is another proof that the Popular Front Government is choosing its very best leaders for the most responsible positions towards a speedy winning of the war.

Senator Nye asks probe

WASHINGTON. — Senator Nye asked the Senate of the U. S. A. that in addition to an investigation about the activities of Franco's agents which are purchasing war materials in the United States in defiance of the neutrality pact, another investigation be made of the widespread spy-net established by the fascists in the U. S. A. for the purpose of sending to Franco's government information concerning the movements of American and Mexican merchant ships.

serves its stoic countenance. The citizens of Madrid remain proud in face of the vicious bombardment. And with good reason; a few short months ago very few of them understood the art of war; only a few had ever seen a rifle let alone handle one. Today they have knowledge gained by bitter experience, and they held back and defeated the trained divisions of the fascist invaders.



AMERICAN NEWS

NEW YORK.—The Transport Workers Union, by a majority vote, has decided to cut off from the A. F. of L. and join the C. I. O. Needless to say, the bosses have objected and refused to recognize the union as now constructed. As a result the Transport Workers Union has adopted a resolution to call a strike on the Interborough, the L. street car and bus lines, unless the companies agree to the holding of a ballot on May 15. At this ballot the men are to decide which federation will represent them.

LOS ANGELES.—The Screen Actors Guild has decided by a 75% vote, for strike action. This decision has been taken partly in sympathy with the film technicians already on strike. In addition, the guild demands recognition and better salaries for actors playing minor parts. This may mean prominent, stars like Robert Montgomery, Joan Crawford, Clark Ga-



Our Lincoln Battalion Postman

ble, and other who are members of the Guild, going on picket.

Individual progressives, Jimmy Cagney in particular, have already put up a fight for the second and third string players. But this is the first time collective action has been taken since the Guild's defeat several years ago. Fans of the International Brigade will be glad to know that Hollywood lefts have given tremendous aid to the Spanish movement. When Comrade Ralph Bates visited the film center in January, not only were big sums collected to send technicians to Spain but Stars and leading writers publicly declared their sympathy with the Spanish People's cause.

Along with the developing movement in support of the Spanish peoples struggle, the movement of the Industrial workers for increased wages and shorter hours is the outstanding feature in Britain today.

Workers in one industry after another are putting forward demands. Every Union conference is taken up with the problem of the fight for better conditions. Unofficial strikes are breaking out where the E. C.'s are refusing to lead the fight.

BUSMENS STRIKE

The London Busmen's strike for a 7 and a half hour day continues despite the feverish attempts of the Government through the Board of Enquiry to call it off in order that the Coronation Rallyhoo should work smoothly. The London Tramway, Trolley Bus, and Underground Rail workers are also considering taking strike action in support of the Busmen and for their own demands. They are also objecting to the increased work which has been thrown upon them during the Bus standstill. The Tramwaymen were induced to hold off striking until the Boards Report had been published. Now that this report has been rejected by the Busmen there is a great possibility of the strike extending.

At the same time, Busmen throughout the Provinces are demanding strike powers from their E. C.'s and in a number of places strikes have already broken out.

The Parkhead (Glasgow) Engineers strike has been confirmed by the Executive Council of the A. E. U. which at the same time recommends the resumption of work pending negotiations. The Clyde District Committee of the Union is convening a meeting of the Shop-Stewards, when it is expected that the demand of the Parkhead men for a general stoppage in the District will be discussed. This will affect 13,000 engineers.

The 15,000 Clydeside engineering apprentices, who were on strike for increased wages, have returned to work on the understanding that:

1. There will be no victimisation.
2. That the Unions have the right to negotiate for them.
3. That no agreements will be made with individual firms.

British Workers Move Into Action

This is a big advance as the Unions have not undertaken any negotiations on behalf of the apprentices since 1921, when the Apprentices struck against a wage cut and failed to secure the support of the Unions.

MINERS FOR ACTION

The E. C. of the M. F. G. B. has postponed the National Miners strike for one week, until May 29th. Meanwhile the Haworth miners continue their campaign against Spencer's "scab" union and strikers are constantly brought into court on charges of "besetting."

The possibility of a National coal strike has so alarmed the

ceed with the formulation of a general wage claim to be submitted to the Postmaster General.

The three Railwaymen's Unions, the N. U. R., the A. S. L. E. & F. and the R. C. A. have had lodged for some time, a claim for higher wages and improved conditions. This demand has been re-inforced by their experience of the tremendous rush traffic for the Coronation which at the same time has brought a rich harvest to the Rail Companies.

Last years profits showed an increase of five Million pounds and the comparative figures for the first three months of 1937 show an increase of over a million pounds. The publication of the Coronation profits will undoubtedly



The General obliges the British comrades with a song

Government that Baldwin, before retiring to his pigs, devoted his last speech in the House of Commons in an attempt to avert the stoppage.

There is little possibility of the strike in support of the Haworth men being averted unless the Notts. owners withdraw the Blacklegs and allow the Trade Unions to freely organise in the Notts. coalfield.

TINPLATE WORKERS

The Tinplate workers at their Annual conference decided to press for an increase of 25 % in wages, over and above the 7 and 7/8 increase in bonus granted by the employers.

The Union of Post Office Workers in conference decided to pro-

ly encourage the Railwaymen to press their demands.

The Waterproof Garment Workers Union has decided for strike action upon the refusal of the employers to meet their demand for a 15 % increase on piece work prices.

This wave of unrest in industry has more than anything else, burst through the false slogan of the Coronation, "Harmony between all classes in Britain". The lamb is refusing to lay down inside the lion.

Not since the days approaching 1926 has such a powerful movement of the industrial workers been witnessed.

The workers of Britain are preparing to play their part in the fight against reaction.

LONG LIVE THE POPULAR FRONT

Last week it was reported that fascist agents had infiltrated into the ranks of the Military School at Valencia, there to carry on their work of disruption. Fortunately this report proved to be false. Nevertheless, as the people's army grows stronger as the result of the new government's work it is certain that our enemies will do their utmost to destroy our unity. Let every volunteer be on guard, not only against provocation to indiscipline, but also against the specious arguments these agents put forward, all of them designed to undermine faith in the People's Front Policy.

One of the most conclusive proofs of the necessity of a People's Front is to be drawn from a comparison of the events of 1923 with those of 1936 and since. Bet-

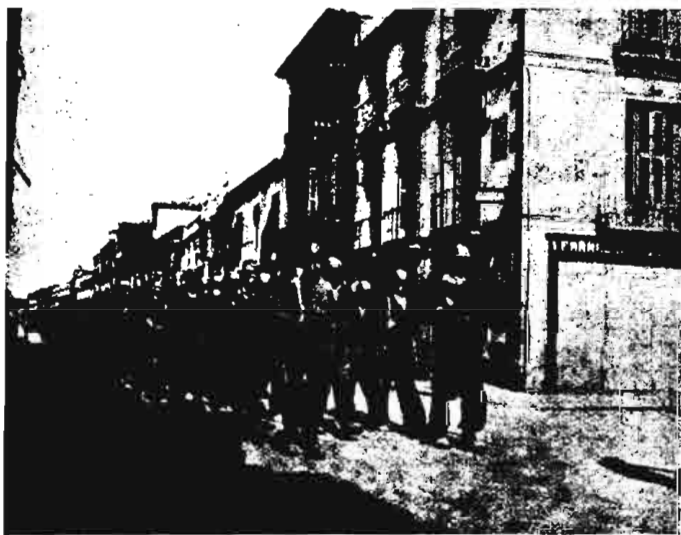
had been for several years engaged in a disastrous war with the Riff tribes of the Moroccan colonies. Defeat after defeat had revealed the corruption and inefficiency of the feudal military castes, whose impeachment the Spanish people at last demanded. And it was not only a stopping of the war that the nation demanded, but a radical change in government. It must be born in mind that the old Spanish Army was no ordinary professional army. For instance, in the French, German or British Imperialist armies there is roughly one officer to every 18 men. In Primo's army there was one to every 8 or 9. Moreover, these officers were largely drawn from the great landowning class, that class which, together with the upper ranks of

masses of the Spanish working class were organized in two great trade union systems, the C. N. T., the Anarco-Syndicalist Federation (American Comrades remember the the I. W. W.) and the U. G. T., at that time largely Socialist. Not only was there no working unity between these great masses, but there was actual hostility. In addition, the progressive middle classes were divided between parties that made no contact with one another. And finally not only was there no liaison between the field workers and the town workers, but Catalan separatism tended to isolate the progressive masses in that region from their natural allies in the rest of Spain.

Confronted with an indignant but divided people Primo struck with impunity.

Before examining the events of 1936 it will be useful to note similarities between Primo's rebellion and that of Franco. In both cases the military caste was unsupported by any great mass of the Spanish people. Unlike Mussolini, Primo did not even try to deceive the people by enlisting them in a political party. True, Spanish democrats still remember with derision the pilgrimage to Madrid of the 7,000 subservient Mayors whom Primo himself had appointed. They also remember the roaring farce of the delegation to King Alfonso of several hundred pregnant ladies of the aristocracy, who pledged loyalty to the King in the name of the unborn generation!

Again, Franco's lie that he was forced to begin his work of destruction in Spain to put an end to the anarchy caused by the Popular Front Government was anticipated by Primo in 1923. At that time there was considerable disorder in Barcelona, but Primo in claiming honor for having stopped it omitted to say that it was the gunmen employed by General Martinez Anido, Governor of Barcelona, who were the provokers of disorder. Every trade union organizer in Barcelona could prove this overwhelmingly, for hundreds of leading workers were assassinated during that period. And in 1936 it was the Socialist, Communist and Republican workers who stood guard over the churches of Madrid and unknown bands which set fire to them. Gunmen again



Lincoln Battalion Marching Through Alcala.

ween Primo de Rivera's declaration of the Dictatorship and the Franco rebellion.

What is the essential difference between these two events?

The most important difference is that whereas in 1923 the Spanish people were compelled to accept Primo's dictatorship without a protest, in 1936 they were able to organize a successful resistance which has earned the admiration of the world. And to the question how has this been possible, there is only one answer. Because of the People's Front.

In 1923, the old Spanish Army

the clergy, the feudal aristocracy and the monarchy, always opposed every progressive reform in Spain. It was precisely these classes which supported Franco in 1936.

Thus, in declaring the dictatorship Primo was not only saving the skin of the military caste, but blocking the way to those Democratic reforms which at last were made possible by the Republic of 1931.

Why did the Spanish people not resist Primo?

Because there was no unity between the progressive forces of those days. Then, as now, the

THE BALANCING TRIO



BENITO. - Well! We're managing but for Christ's sake watch that axe

began their work of shooting left leaders.

Thus, though Primo was not strictly a fascist as Franco in his February interview with the American press has admitted to being, there was a great similarity between the two rebellions. Despite this likeness the Spanish people reacted in 1936 in an entirely different way.

The Popular Front is born.

The Republic of 1931 was brought in by the municipal elections of April 12, as a result of

agreements between parties so wide apart as the Conservative Party and the Communist Party. Despite good work, (in the first year it created 7,000 new schools) there was still not that degree of agreement which would have enabled the Republic to stabilize conditions. Above all, the Agrarian Reform of 1932 was too slow and too hesitant to satisfy the land hunger of the starving peasantry. The result was that as a result of the November 1933 elections aided by *caudismo*, or boss rule, the Right regained some of its lost ground. The Radical Party of Leroux began to seek allies upon the Right rather than the Left, finally inviting three Catholics of the reactionary C. E. D. A. Party into the government.

This was the signal for revolutionary effort, the Socialist Party at once began to prepare for action and on October 6, the revolution broke out. The Asturian miners after a glorious struggle that has thrilled the workers of



An american machine gun crew

the world, were defeated and mercilessly subjected to the most bloody repression of modern times.

But the truth is that the objective conditions for success did not exist. There was no nation wide agreement between the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. The Catalan U. N. T. leaders indeed, denounced the General Strike which preceded the rising. The countryside did not respond and because of the narrow bases of the appeals, middle class parties like the Estat Catala and the Esquerra in Catalonia withheld support, as did the Republican Parties in the rest of

Spain. The result was that the right wing government was able to bear down murderously with all its weight upon the isolated heroes of Asturias.

After this the gains of the Republic were steadily destroyed by successive Right governments, the leading figure of which was Gil Robles, the Catholic C. E. D. A. Minister of War, "machine-gunner by proxy", now skulking in Portugal. In the face of this tremendous danger the policy of the Popular Front, was laid down. Many parties loyally rallied to it and finally, in 1935 a program was drawn up and signed by all. It is worth noticing that this treaty was signed by the P. O. U. M. That party, upon whose narrow shoulders must fall the blame for the criminal rising in Barcelona was shortly denouncing the Popular Front Government which came into being after the elections of February 1936. It must be understood clearly that these elections were only won because a definitive policy had been drawn up. That policy was broad enough to secure the loyalty of parties such as Republican Left which itself was placed in office. It contains such points as consolidation of the church reforms, cleansing of the army, speeding up of the Land Reform, and an amnesty for the 30,000 political prisoners lying in Spanish jails. For such a policy the C. N. T. followers voted, despite their theoretical objections to the ballot box.

It was against this government that Franco rebelled, to be met by defeat in all densely populated parts of Spain.

At this point it becomes absolutely vital to make one remark. The masses supporting the Popular Front Government were immensely aided in their victory over the rebellious army by the fact that they had a government to help them. It was not the people alone which captured Montaña Barracks in Madrid but the people aided by the loyal Assault Guards. And the people themselves were armed by the Popular Front Government. Moreover, had that government been built on too narrow a foundation great sectors of the public might not have rallied to its side. And had the government represented only the more moderate of the parties, it would not have had the courage to arm the people.

To sum up, the immediate sub-

INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE GREETES NEW GOVERNMENT

TELEGRAMS

Doctor NEGRIN.
Cabinet President.
Valencia.

"Meeting International Brigades Commissaires in name all Volunteers greets and pledges enthusiastic adhesion new Government Spanish Republic expression people's firm will to do everything to quickly and definitely crush fascism enemy liberty and progress.—Luigi GALLO, Commissaire Inspector of the International Brigades."

Indalecio PRIETO.
National Defense Minister.
Valencia.

"Meeting International Brigades Commissaires greets you as chief of all armed forces fighting for the crushing of fascism and places itself enthusiastically at your orders certain that under your guidance and under the guidance of new Popular Front Government we shall march quickly to victory.—Luigi GALLO, Commissaire Inspector of the International Brigades."

ALVAREZ DEL VALLO.
General War Commissaire.
Valencia.

"In name all Commissaires and volunteers International Brigades we send you warm greetings felicitations for your confirmation leading post General War Commissariat eloquent evidence your high merits in creation new Spanish Popular Army and as inspirer prompt victory fascism to which new Government is a guarantee.—Luigi GALLO, Commissaire Inspector of the International Brigades."

2000 refugee children from Euzkadi arrived in London aboard the S. S. Avana. The pro-Bilbao Committee of London has declared itself ready to give adequate shelter to all the 2000 children.

mission of 1923 was the result of a lack of a broad and popular unity. The magnificent resistance of July 1936 and the forging out of the great, discipline and combative army in 1937 demonstrates that the Popular Front has saved Spain.

A TELEGRAM FROM THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST PARTIES

"The Co-ordinating Committee recommends to all its sections, and militants, to observe an absolute serenity during the solving of the Governmental crisis, by conforming to the decisions which they receive directly from the National Committees of the two parties. It is necessary, not to support nor to participate in the attitudes of those elements who are interested in creating difficulties, which the solution of the crisis might provoke."



Vincente Uribe minister of Agriculture

Faël Vaillant-Couturier, leading French Communist, writes the following in the "Humanité" after an extended visit to the Basque provinces:

"While the Nazi aviators were gunning at us, and, hugging the parapet, my cheek against the fragrant earth, I was listening to the throbbing of the blood at my temples, I could hear in that same rhythm the voices of the people of Paris 'Airplanes for Spain! Airplanes for Spain!' I assure you that that cry, spontaneously born of the popular conscience of Paris in defense of the world's liberties, was living in me."

And the crime of the blockade appeared to me more horrible yet. And I was ashamed to bring to the heroes surrounding me this measly consolation, consolation which, however, was moving them to tears, and which they were welcoming with their "U. H. P." of gratitude: our food ships and the evacuation of children..."

THE HISTORY OF THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS

(Continued from page one.)

operations of the People's Army throughout the country.

4. Reorganization of the War Commissariat and creation of a new directive committee, to be composed of delegates of all organizations entering the government. It shall be responsible to the Ministry of War and to the Supreme Council of War, but shall control the political direction of its work.

5. The Prime Minister shall occupy himself exclusively with the work of this department, and the Ministry of War is to be held by another person.

The final point proposes that Government program shall be drawn up and made public on the same day the cabinet takes office. These opinions were amplified in a letter addressed to the President by comrade José Díaz. The Communist Party demanded the thorough reorganization of the entire war machinery in all its aspects, the conducting of the Nation's industry and economic life to a central plan designed to end the war speedily, and the inflexible maintenance of public or-

a new cabinet. It was as follows:

U. G. T., three ministers, prime ministry-ship and a reorganized ministry of a defence (to be held by one person), with four departments, War, Marine, Air, and Munitions. Foreign affairs, and home affairs.

Socialist Party:

Ministry of Economy and Agriculture, and of Industry and Commerce.

Communist Party, Public Instruction, and Labor.

Left Republican Party, Public Works and Propaganda.

C. N. T., Justice, and Health.

The Catalan Left Republican Party, and the Basque Nationalist Party were to receive Ministries without portfolio (i.e. without definite departments).

This plan was accepted by the U. G. T. executive and the Republican union, but rejected by the C. N. T., the Socialist Party, the Communist Party, and the Left Republicans. The principles for rejections were:

The C. N. T. refused to accept both a position of inferiority with regards the U. G. T. and of equality with the Communist Party, which, it said, had provoked the crisis, had not shown the same degree of loyalty as the C. N. T. and which was a smaller body. Also it said that while it was in agreement with the U. G. T. holding the war ministries, it could not consent to all constructive posts (economy and industry), being in one person's hands, and declared that the C. N. T. had most enthusiasm for this work. Finally, the C. N. T. said that the government as constituted would be conservative and anti-proletarian.

The Left Republican Party objected to the Prime Minister being Minister of War, and the Communist Party in rejecting Largo Caballero's plan pressed the same point, and the Socialist Party declared that it would not enter the government without the Communist Party.

As a result of these negative replies, comrade Largo Caballero gave up his effort to form a new cabinet, whereupon comrade Negrin, former Minister of Economy, was given the task. He at once visited the offices of all parties and organizations.

Monday 17.

The C. N. T. declared in a of-

ficial note that it could not enter the government presided over by Negrin, neither directly nor indirectly. It said that Negrin had proposed a cabinet of nine ministers, one from each of the parties and organizations of the Popular Front.

At 10.45, comrade Negrin announced that he had formed his cabinet and this had been accepted by the President. The posts are distributed as follows:

Prime Ministership and Public Economy, Juan Negrin, Socialist Party.

Foreign Affairs, José Giral, Left Republican.

National Defense, Indalecio Prieto, Socialist Party.

Justice, Manuel Irujo, Basque Nationalist Party.

Gobernacion (Public Order, etc.), Julián Zugazagoitia, Socialist Party.

Health and Education, Jesús Hernández, Communist Party.

Agriculture, Vicente Uribe, Communist Party.

Public Works and Communication, Giner de los Ríos, Republican Union.

Labor, Jaime Ayguadé, Catalan Left Republican.

In a general statement of policy which was at once made public, the new Government hoped that the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. would change their attitude, but nevertheless believed that the cabinet represented the broad masses of people. It promised to keep order in the rear guard inflexibly and to permit no organization to provoke disturbances. Furthermore, it announced its intention of reorganising all war and economic activities and of calling the Cortes together at the earliest possible date.

It must be borne in mind that the mass of the U. G. T. is composed of Socialists and Communists. The Typographical Union, U. G. T. has protested against the U. G. T. executive's refusal to enter the Government.

(N. B., the executive of the U. G. T. was elected in 1932 and there has been no National Congress during the last four years.) Madrid demonstration of the U. G. T. May endorsed the government.

Summing up, it is clear that the formation of the new Government represents a serious effort to reorganize the machinery of war and to plan the nation's economy. The way is open for the dissident organizations to enter

U. G. T. to call National Convention shortly

At a plenary meeting of the National Committee of the Union General de Trabajadores held in Valencia Tuesday May 18, and on motion made by the Federation of Graphic Arts, supported by the Building Trades Federation, Teachers Federation, Workers of Petroleum Products and other Unions, a decision was arrived at to call at an early date a National Convention of the U. G. T.

Severe criticism was expressed by the representatives of several unions on the attitude of the Executive Committee at the time of the Government crisis.

The National Convention will be called not only to discuss and judge the conduct of the Central Committee, but also to deal with all the problems arising from the war and of the revolution.

NOTE.—The last National Convention of the U. G. T. was held in 1932.

What are they going there for?

"L'Humanité" of Paris publishes this ominous piece of news.

"From confidential and reliable sources we learn that a number of non-commissioned officers of the Italian Army have been sent to serve in the German Army and in territory adjoining Poland and Checko-Slovakia. In Italian fascist centers it is insistently whispered that a fascist putsch, backed by fascist intervention, is being prepared and is scheduled to start within one month against Checko-Slovakia.

French nation helps Bilbao

On Thursday May 12, the Paris Bilbao Committee received 30,000 francs and three tons of food for the Basque people. 130,000 francs had been collected previously.

the Government when they wish. The present cabinet is a true Popular Front Government and represents the people's desire and determination to intensify the fight against the fascist invaders.



Jesús Hernández,
Minister of Health and Education.

der and the suppression of provocation.

On Saturday evening "Mundo Obrero" in a leading article informed that the Government's resignation had been necessary because its errors had led to the Trotskyite's revolt in Catalonia, and had been reflected in the present military inactivity and the chaotic state of Spanish industry.

Sunday, May 16.

During the morning Largo Caballero made public his plans for



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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OUR ARMY IS A PEOPLE'S ARMY

Development of the regular army of the Spanish Republic

PART I

It is the object of this article at once to trace the growth and development of the Republican Army and to show that it is a real People's Army. Just as we have been told that the Popular Front policy was responsible for the events of Barcelona, we have also had to listen to the ridiculous statement that we of the Popular Front are creating a new danger in building up a regular army.

This argument will not carry the slightest weight with those who have followed the whole course of the army's evolution since the July days. General Miaja, defender of Madrid, in an interview with the writer, recently declared that "the regular army has grown up from below, out of the people, it has not been imposed from above". This is absolutely true and in a matter of fact historical way. At every stage the particular forms the army was to take, its methods, content and organization, can be seen in embryo long before a government decree regularizes or clarifies the situation. And without the constant compenetration of the civilian people and the armed forces it would have been impossible to bring the present army into being.

THE THREE PERIODS

The history of the war may be divided into three phases:

1.—The Romantic phase during

which improvised forces, loosely organized and badly trained were expected rapidly to defeat a purely Spanish fascism.

2.—The Awakening period. In this period the enemy makes use of the vast resources given him by foreign fascism, both in materials and technical advice and personnel. The Republican forces begin to crystallize into a regular army but no reserves are created.

3.—The Realist period. Faced with invading fascist armies and

learning at last that war has its own objective nature, and that it rigorously imposes its own laws upon a government, the Popular Front Government begins to evolve a nation-wide plan for the whole military and economic life of the country.

THE JULY DAYS

When the people aided by the loyal Assault Guards had defeated the fascist rising in

Madrid there remained the immediate necessity of repulsing the enemy marching on the city. The first forces were organized, not by the government, but by trade unions, syndicates and political parties. Often these groups were nothing more than a number of friends who rallied round the strongest character among them. There was, indeed, some talk of forming a governmental army and two "quintos" or conscript drafts were called up. This had no effect, partly because the men called upon were already in the forces, and partly because those who were not preferred to go to the companies organized by their respective political parties. In these early days Madrid was defended by an irregular army of a bewildering and complex mosaic pattern. There were Socialist companies and battalions, Communist and C. N. T. companies and Left Republican, all of whom preserved their separate headquarters and particular staffs.

BEGINNING OF ORDER

Nevertheless a crystallizing movement can be seen even in this purely popular period. The Fifth Regiment, beginning with its Companies of Steel, began at once to propagand for a regular army upon the basis of definite organization and sound military training. This Fifth Regiment, which was to become the most famous of Spanish Republican forces dur-



"PASIONARIA" formerly honorary Commander 5th Regiment.

(Continued on page 7)

MÁLAGA - A. MARTYRED CITY

500 refugees from fascist Spain arrive at Valencia.

More than five hundred refugees from Málaga arrived at Valencia from Gibraltar on May 25. They had managed, somehow, to enter the British Zone in their frantic escape from the fascist bands, at the time of the fall of Málaga.

When they left Gibraltar, compelled to do so by the British Governor, who feared an epidemic,

jails and from the ship "Marqués de Chavarrí" at anchor in port. Then followed 300 Italian tanks, manned by Italian crews. After them, in three columns, came no less than 16,000 Italian troops, full Italian uniforms. Then came the artillery, machine guns, mortars. Everything was Italian. Last, bringing up the rear, were small sections of fascists, falangists,

the morning every night, they took large groups of prisoners out to the cemeteries or to some out of the way street where the victims, tied with barbed wire were shot.

ALL LEFTS AND PROGRESSIVES KILLED

The first to be killed was the Popular Front Mayor Eugenio Entrambasagua. Not content with having murdered him, they dragged his body thru the city streets. Then came the turn of Juan Delgado president of the Left Republican Youth, then Rafael Trigueros, a man who belonged to no political party, but who was extremely popular in Málaga. Three catholic priests who had made common cause with the people were also killed.

On Easter Sunday a special celebration was thought necessary. 250 prisoners were shot. The day after, the bodies of more than two hundred girls, members of the Young Socialist League were picked up in the streets. Altogether this terror lasted for more than a month.

Men were found hanging from trees in parks and fields; victims were cut to pieces, horrible mutilations perpetrated. Even nurses working in military hospitals were killed.

MÁLAGA WAS ONCE SPANISH

Today Málaga is a German city. The lash and the club so dear to the German terror work overtime in Málaga. Workers are made to work under the lash of forcing overseers.

Málaga's hospitals, meanwhile, are full of wounded. More than 9,000 of them. The houses and the churches also are full of the wounded from the Almería and Córdoba fronts.

The "Maine" is on its way back to Gibraltar to bring another load of refugees to Valencia.

This is the work of fascism at its most typical.

Badajoz, Guernica, Málaga! Names of fascist victories over unarmed civilian populations, but also names that today loom large in the minds of the workers the world over!

Marshal Voroshiloff to the Red Army on May Day.

Marshal Voroshiloff, the Russian War Commissar, addressing the parade in the Red Square, said:

Only the Red Army hinders Fascism from attacking the country of the Soviets and beginning a new world slaughter. Fascism is the most deadly enemy of the workers and peasants. The Red Army has been, is, and will for ever remain the guardian of the peace of the entire world, however much our enemies may describe it as predatory and preparing to attack neighbouring State. All these insinuations cannot conceal the fact that Fascism has already entered on the path of war and arson.

"The Red Army is preparing to attack," shout those who have themselves already attacked and are destroying whole nations. The Red Army does not exist for attack, but to annihilate attackers utterly.

CONSUMERS POWER STRIKE OF MICHIGAN ENDED

The Michigan Consumers Power strike involving over 7,000 workers and affecting chiefly the General Motors plants in Flint and Lansing was ended when the United Automobile Workers Union (C. I. O.) and Governor Murphy were accepted as mediators.



Málaga refugees at Almería.

because of the appalling overcrowding of refugees escaping from the international fascist terror unleashed over Andalusia, everyone of them chose Valencia as his destination.

They are all peasants and workers, people deeply attached to their homes, their families, their fields and their pitifully small worldly goods. Their homes abandoned, their families scattered, their fields lost, they arrived in Valencia a sad but hopeful crowd. The only topic of their conversation is the terror they witnessed.

FOREIGN ARMS FOR FASCIST TERROR

They tell of the 18,000 Italians entering Málaga while the city in a restless and fearful silence was wondering what would happen. The coming of the fascists had been preceded by promises that the fascists would not carry out reprisals, that everyone would be forgiven, even the militias.

The Italian entry was preceded by a strong patrol of Falangists whose first act was to free all the fascists prisoners from the

and rebel civil guards. As the troops were marching thru the city, going east in pursuit of the refugees frantically fleeing towards Motril and Almería, or anywhere away from the fascists, from two Italian and three German steamers squadrons of airplanes were being unloaded, while German crews of specialists hurriedly assembled them.

For a period of ten days the city was calm. Then the terror started. During the ten days of calm, many naively believed in the promises made by the fascist leader José Estrada. They reentered their homes and resumed their work. Secretly lists of proscribed people were being prepared. The agents of fascism were making ready. Once the lists were made the arrests started. In three days 6,590 persons were arrested. In one single night 209 women, mostly girls, members of the Young Socialist League were taken to jail. After the arrests began the "Black Squadron" was organized. The components were 400 youths drawn from the scum of the bourgeois underworld. Theirs was night work. From one to five in



Fleeing before the Italian invaders.

Fascist Spies in the United States

A fascist spy and arms-purchasing agency has been exposed in the United States by the publication in the *Daily Worker* of letters and documents issuing from the offices of Diaz and Garcia, steamship operators, 17 Battery Place, New York. The head of this organization is a former Spanish Ambassador to the United States, Juan Francisco de Cardenas, who claims protection of a flink diplomatic passport.

The *Daily Worker* has published photostats of all correspondence passing between spy centers, from which it is seen, amongst other things, that the fascist gang suggested on March 5th, 1937, that a speedy armed ship be sent to the strait of Yucatan to block shipping from Mexico to the Spanish Republic. "If there were such a ship" one letter says "not one of the ships with armaments would get through".

The documents also disclose that this ring has conspired to violate U. S. laws by purchase of arms for Franco, and that there exists a network of agencies in Vera Cruz, Mexico and Havana, Cuba. Spies in these places send regular reports on the movement of Spanish shipping, through New York to fascist H. Q. in Spain. Diplomatic plots come within the scope of the cardenas outfit; one letter reveals that on April 8, 1937, the fascist agent Diaz was in Havana touting for recognition of Franco's "Government" by Cuba.

Fake aid societies have been formed, in particular the Commonwealth Spanish Relief Fund, 383 fourth Ave., and the American Committee for Spanish Relief, one of whose presidents is Ogden Hammond, former U. S. Ambassador in Spain. This concern does things in an ambassadorial style. H. Q. is at Vanderbilt Hotel.

POPEYE AND BETTY BOOP ON STRIKE

Betty Boop and Popeye are on strike in New York City. One hundred members of the well known animated cartoons are demanding regular wages. They claim that the 15 dollars a week they get does n't keep them in spinach.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT PRESENTS ITS PLEA TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

At the time of going to press the present session of the League of Nations is not sufficiently advanced for us to make long comment. This will appear next week.

So far the Spanish Government has rejected the proposal, backed by England and France, for mediation between Franco and the Government. As Comrade Negrin has pointed out, mediation can be effected between State and State, but not between a Government and a group of rebels. Only one kind of "mediation" is possible, the total defeat of fascism by the People's Government.

We may point out that these proposals for mediation always come when the situation is especially favorable to the government. They have occurred before, and now, after recent victories at Guadalajara and Pozoblanco and the formation of the new government they are being repeated.

The government has made the first diplomatic distribution of the White Book on Italian intervention. This volume is sure to provoke intense interest. We un-

derstand that it consists of over three hundred pages and contains photographs of Italian and military orders and other documents all proving that there is indeed an Italian Army of Occupation in Spain.

A scheme for the withdrawal of foreign volunteers is to be discussed. In this respect a government spokesman has declared that "it is impossible to confuse breaches of the obligation of not authorizing the departure of volunteers, with the organization and sending by the Italian government of a definite expeditionary force". In other words, the International Brigades are a real volunteer force which governments have tried to prevent being formed. (The French government for instance has closed its frontiers.) The italians are not volunteers and have been sent by their government, often against their will, and by means of cruel deception.

It was stated in Paris that in all probability, Portugal would oppose the withdrawal of volunteers.



Mr. Eden has proposed mediation.

Soviet Union Makes Peaceful Conquest.

The announcement by the Soviet Union that its scientists have conquered the arctic regions of the North Pole marks another glorious page in Soviet scientific advances.

There now exists at the North Pole a Soviet scientific colony whose base is situated on a huge block of ice registered on a list of Soviet polar stations under the name of "North Pole No. 56". The station has been constructed as the central polar directing point of the sea route for ships, and its air field, recently established is the landing point for airplanes.

Throughout the Northern polar regions wireless telegraph points, radio centers, beacons, ports for ships, and coal and oil bases have been set up. In definitely conquering the North Pole the Soviet scientists have a regular plan of air routes and waterway routes into the most hazardous points of the arctic.

Pravda, Soviet organ, says that Robert Peary, who first visited the North Pole, like other great explorers had no elements nor forces for the scientific organization of work at the pole. He was not able to place his discoveries into the hands of scientists and the people. But the Soviet explorers have behind them the entire nation.

The name "Stalin" is proposed for central base of the arctic.

The Juan Negrin, new Prime Minister of Spain, through the press praised the Soviet Union for its wonderful polar and scientific achievements.

The Red Flag of the Soviet Union waves now at the North Pole.

ONE SUPREME COURT JUDGE RESIGNS

No doubt in a glimmer of returning intelligence, Supreme Court Justice Van Devanter resigned from his position. The gentleman is 78 years old.

When President Roosevelt heard the news, he smilingly commented: "This makes one point. There are five more to go."

SPANISH GOVERNMENT AIDS STARVING PEASANTRY

The Problem of the Land in Spain

In recent days we have heard from certain quarters the charge that the Spanish revolution has been betrayed by the formation of the new government. In passing, we may point out that POUM, one of the organizations making this charge, had already said that previous Popular Front governments had never begun the revolution. Probably P. O. U. M. understands by revolution the shooting of workers by those who profess to serve them; nevertheless, it is vitally important to know what has really happened in the Spanish countryside.

Fifty-six per cent of the Spanish people live on the land; the agrarian problem, therefore, has always been the most critical of Spanish problems. "Andalucía está muriéndose de hambre". Andalucía is dying of hunger. The classical phrase was true of Castilla and Extremadura and other parts as well. In 1930 the writer found whole districts, in the neighbourhood of Plasencia and Cáceres (the city where the hero Duffy made his H. Q. before running home), while the average wage

Aragon, during 1932, the writer discovered that there had been a famine during the preceding winter, due to the absence of wind. How could an absence of wind cause people to die of hun-

Lands of Sahagun... land of Salamanca, where hardly three or four times the quantity of seed sown is returned. Land without trees, without cattle." These are extreme cases but a yield of nine

another 20,000 schools were to be built.

Then, on the technical side of Land Reform, vast irrigation schemes were drawn up in 1932, aiming at the watering of 5,000,000 acres of land, at a cost of five thousand million pesetas, to be spread over 25 years. Many of these schemes were begun, such as the lower Gaudalquivir Valley Canal, the Gaudalcacin Reservoir and canals, the Genil works, and elsewhere.

LAND FOR THE PEASANTS

Most important of all the Marcelino Domingo Agrarian Reforms of December 22, 1932 proposed to take over vast estates, upon a basis of compensation, to be divided among the peasants and their organizations. Certain of the nobles implicated in the anti-republican rising of August 1932, were to receive no compensation. Though this reform was slow and hesitant, much was done to improve the field workers' condition.

The Popular Front Government of February 1936 was pledged to speed up this land reform, which would have destroyed the power of the semi-feudal classes represented by Franco.



In the old days under the monarchy one and half pesetas a day for 12 hours work under a Spanish sun.

ger? Very soon members of the International Brigade will have an opportunity of understanding how, for the months of reaping, July and August, are followed by the winnowing weeks, when the chaff and the grain, trodden out by oxen, are thrown into the air for the wind to separate. In that year in Javierrelatre there had been no wind and the fermented mixture had become useless for bread.

THERE WERE GASOLINE DRIVEN WINNOWING MACHINES IN THAT VILLAGE, BUT THE PEASANTS WERE TOO POOR TO HIRE THEM FROM THE RICHER LAND-OWNERS

There lies the cause of Spain's agricultural backwardness. The poverty of the peasant, and the crushing rents, in the impossibility of watering their fields adequately or of manuring them, resulting in low yield. A Spanish economist says "Soria lands, bare hills of Almazan, where the plow only scratches the soil and after the efforts of an untiring farmer, only yields three times the volume of seeds put into the ground.

times is considered good in prosperous parts of Spain, whereas in the U. S. A. or in England 18 to 1 is quite usual.

It is not the natural impossibility of watering and manuring the fields which has impoverished Spain, but the neglect of absentee landlords and the absence of plan characteristic of a semi-feudal state. Furnished only with a light plough, often of primitive Roman type, the peasant was unable to undertake deep plowing which would protect his crops against drought.

And with this poverty went ignorance and illiteracy. In 1926 forty-two per cent of the nation was illiterate and there were whole districts where the proportion reached was ninety per cent.

Even now: after the efforts of the Republic, a great proportion of the men of the twenty-fourth battalion, Fifteenth Brigade, fine fighters and good comrades, are illiterate.

THE WORK OF THE REPUBLIC OF 1931

First, in the matter of education; in two years the Republic created 9,000 new schools; by means of an Education Loan



A good comrade, but the monarchy never taught him to read or write.

of the field worker was one and a half to two pesetas a day. The same was true of Salamanca, formerly Gil Robles' seat and now Von Franco's.

Again, at Javierrelatre in High



A medieval technique. In the hills around you women still spin thread this way.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SINCE JULY 1936

In the words of Comrade Vicente Uribe, minister of Agriculture, it has been the Government's policy "to expropriate the great landlords, enemies of the people, and give the land to those who work on it... we have cleaned loyal Spain of the foul disease of boss rule, of the oppressor of the field workers".

No longer are there vast estates like those of the Duke of Medinaceli who owned two hundred thousand acres. The one hundred and twenty five thousand acres of the Duke of Peñaranda are in the hands of his peasants and workers; so are the hundred and seventeen thousand acres of the Duke of Villahermosa, the eighty-seven thousand of the Duke of Alba. Franco propaganda agent in London now, who has declared that the Comrades of the International Brigades are thieves and criminals (and he did not mean merely the quartermaster). And the one million acres which belonged to only fourteen fascist Dukes, Counts and grandees of Spain has also been divided among the people.

ALTOGETHER FIVE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND ACRES OF LAND HAVE BEEN SHARED OUT

This figure represents eighteen per cent of the cultivable area of Spain, moreover, it excludes what has been done in Catalonia, certain parts of Aragon, and in the regions of Santander and Asturias.

It is true to say that in those regions where the land problem was sharpest it has already been solved. In the province of Ciudad Real, for instance, 1,855,000 acres have been given to workers organizations and collectives. In the province of Albacete, headquarters of the International Brigades, 1,116,000 acres, in Jaen, 900,000, in the province of Madrid, 340,000 acres in Cuenca 325,000 acres have been expropriated. Valencia workers and peasants have received 235,000 acres, the hungry people of Guadalajara, Granada and Murcia have also been helped.

Besides this directly expropriated land hundreds of thousands of acres have been taken over in other ways. If comrades of the English and Lincoln Battalion of the 15th Brigade look back from their lines they will see a broad, green and well cultivated valley.

If in that valley there is any peasant who, before the fascist rising paid rent to a landlord, then he no longer does so. The landlord and tenant relation no longer exists. The peasant pays not a single penny of rent, though when the time comes, like every other citizen, he will pay his dues to the state. At present he may freely

culture has said "the government has taken the land away from the proprietors in order to emancipate the peasants, not in order to emancipate four committees".

The government will continue to prevent these injustices. It will prohibit so-called "socialized" control of village commerce, it will give practical aid to the peasants.



Peasants were shut up as hostages in la Virgen de la Cabeza. Here they are seen talking with their liberators.

enjoy the use of nationalized land.

We of the Popular Front have been told by the theoreticians of the P. O. U. M. that we have betrayed the revolution. Because we wish to put our greatest efforts into winning the war we are told that we are counter-revolutionaries. Yet to the rear of our lines, comrades, you can see a country without tyrant landlords, without corrupt bosses, without usurers and village money lenders. Upon the land behind the fascists' lines, the weight of oppression still rests.

WHAT IS THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S POLICY?

The Communist Party, in its recent letter to Señor Azafia declared that the peasant must be protected against forced collectivisations and extremist experiments and that the small proprietor must be left in possession of his land. This has been one part of the Government's policy, and will continue to be.

Here and there cases have occurred where self appointed committees have collected rent from those who are working nationalized land. As the Minister of Agri-

Over and above the gift of land the government has loaned to the peasants about 45,000,000 pesetas, through the Institute of Agrarian Reform.

Besides this, specialized credits have been granted to olive oil producers, vineyard workers and rice growers, for the carrying out of necessary work and the purchase of seeds. And all this to the tune of 45,000,000 pesetas. Instead of fomenting strife in the city streets in the name of revolution, this is what the Popular Front government has achieved on the land. Despite the provocations and the local tyrannies of irresponsible village Caesars, last autumn wheat sowing was up by 7 %.

To encourage production it is necessary to guarantee a remunerative price. Apart from the correction of abuses this can be done best by large scale ministerial purchases and by the creation of cooperatives. Already in the Mediterranean coast districts these cooperatives are giving good results.

HOW TO RUN A COLLECTIVE

Here is an example of successful and properly conducted col-

lectivisation. At Villanueva de Córdoba last July the civil guards, disloyal to the government, captured the town and caused a great part of the people to flee to the fields. The citizens were not dismayed however, and headed by Julian Caballero, field-workers leader, they collected all the arms that could be found in the district. After a sharp battle Villanueva was recaptured. In that town where formerly there ruled an absentee landlord, the average size whose 40 estates was of 1500 acres, Julian Caballero is now Mayor, idolized by the emancipated people.

Villanueva has organized splendid battalions of peasant fighters, but it has also solved its land problems. The estates of the former parasites are now cultivated collectively by members of the Field Workers Union.

There is nothing resembling coercion in Villanueva. The small proprietors have their own association and cultivate their land individually. Land was also given to those who owned a yoke of horses, mules or oxen. Even inside the Field Workers Union there is a small group which without hindrance demands the parcelling out of the land.

The quality of all work is excellent. The olive trees have been zealously tended and the fields scrupulously cleaned. All last years crops having been gathered and the town is now collectively engaged in the production of olive oil. The natural economic difficulties of Villanueva, excess of meat and oil and insufficiency of wheat, have been overcome by collective exchange with other channels. When the war time refugee problem no longer burdens the town its prosperity will go forward by leaps and bounds.

Let no one pretend that the interests of the Spanish masses have been neglected or betrayed. It is these conquests at Villanueva which the comrades on the Córdoba front are defending; there advance is bringing release to thousands of other peasants for whom life has hitherto been a savage and brutalizing oppression. And in holding their lines the comrades of the 15th Brigade are likewise driving back the enemies of the people. Comrades, the Popular Front Government is guardian of the true Spanish and democratic revolution.

American finance imperialism in Spain

American comrades, students of Imperialist technique, may like to know of an example of American Imperialism in Madrid City. We refer to the Telefónica, the Telephone Company of Spain, whose head office, a skyscraper-like building, they may have seen.

This company, headed by the notorious Col. Behn, is an offshoot of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company of New York, one of the Morgan concerns.

In 1924 the Telefónica obtained a monopoly concession from Dictator Primo, which for cool impudence surpasses anything Wall or Threadneedle Streets have been able to put out. If anything it surpasses the achievements of Mussolini's diplomacy, or army canteen prices.

The monopoly runs contrary to every principle of the Spanish constitution and every law of the Civil Code in that it puts an important political power in the hands of a foreign company. For example, during the 1932 Sanjurjo monarchist rising in Sevilla the Republican Government was unable to make telephonic contact with that city.

By its contract the Telefonica is entitled to use state powers and is exempt from every kind of tax, local or national, in the present or in the future. In one year the Telefónica thus avoided a normal business tax of 3,800,000 pesetas, while its total of percentage payment to the government only came to 3,420,000 pesetas. The cost of plant was staggering, being 878,993,000 pesetas, all of which must be repaid, plus 15 % in gold, if the Republic of today wishes to regain control of the system.

Moreover, the Spanish Company must pay to the American Company 7 % of gross income yearly, besides a 5 % commission on imported plant, on which profit has presumably been paid in the states. Or was U. S. A. imperialism so charitable as to sell at cost price? This commission came to 43,000,000 pesetas.

Finally, with a highly modern system the Spanish state in six years has drawn 20,000,000 pesetas less than with the old outfit, which closely resembled battalion headquarters field telephone. Boys,

like love, or common or garden fascism, its a racket! Take another shot over the parapet at the friends of the Telefónica.

O'Duffy's inglorious Dupes

O'Duffy has given some amazing reasons for the quick return of his much-boasted Brigade from Spain.

The ideas of this Brigade seem to have changed considerably in the few months since they set out with such ardour to "save religion in Spain".

According to O'Duffy's statement, they don't seem to have saved much or done much since they arrived in Spain. Either Franco did not value them very highly or they just refused to fight.

They appear to have spent most of their time catching colds in the "wet trenches".

O'Duffy says they have, "now been in the front line trenches since February 19th, subjected to unceasing shell fire and bombing -we have left "seven" dead in the field, many seriously wounded and many others suffering from shellshock, pulmonary diseases and rheumatic fever developed in the trenches during the incessant rain of February and March".

It was then too cold for O'Duffy's men, now it is too hot.

"The greatest trial of the war will undoubtedly be the danger of Typhoid and other fevers from now on... the complete absence of water for either drinking or sanitary purposes, have had serious effects on the health of the Irish troops already."

No clearer light could have been thrown on the types which O'Duffy recruited than the light of his own statement. The real fighters for Ireland never threw up the battle because of the hardships of the trench or the coldness of the cave on the hillside.

The "Wild Geese" left Ireland many years ago and fought with all armies, in all climates against the rapacious army of British Imperialism and won undying honour for themselves and for their people. To-day O'Duffy covers himself with ignominy. Men who be-

200 Submachine guns bought on account of the French Fascist are seized in Switzerland

The Swiss Federal police has just discovered a new arms smuggling organization.

Following the arrest of a smug-

gler by the name of Jean Ronchi, la whose position were found 20 sub-machine guns, and 8 boxes containing 2,500 rifles cartridges, several searches were made in various Swiss cities. 200 sub-machine guns were found.

It is believed that this group of smugglers was part of a larger gang, members of which were arrested lately in several French cities.

Lately, custom guards arrested several smugglers known to be at the service of Doriot and of De La Roque.

CHARLOTTE S. C. COTTON MILL WORKERS STRIKE

The first battle resulting from the C. I. O. campaign in Southern textile mills is on. 1,100 workers of the Marlboro Cotton Mill of Bennettsville and McColl S. C. went on strike May 9. The strike was quite spontaneous. According to the Rev. R. Lawrence, co-ordinator for the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, the workers went on strike when their patience was exhausted. Organization work had been proceeding very rapidly previous to the strike. When the men went on strike 96 % were already members of the Union.

25,000 JONES AND LAUGHLIN STEEL WORKERS STRIKE

Because of the company's refusal to sign a Union Contract 25,000 steel workers in the Jones and Laughlin Aliquippa and South Pittsburgh plants were called out on strike by the Steel Workers Organization Committee. Because of the "Unholy Alliance" of the Independent steel manufacturers under the leadership of Ernest T. Weir of National Steel, it is believed that 110,000 more workers will be on strike within a few days in the Pittsburgh and Youngstown region.

UNIMPORTANT NEWS

Rockefeller died at the age of 96. Wally says she will marry the Duke on June 20.

SWEDEN. — The Trotskyite Kilbon has been expelled from the Swedish Socialist Party.

OUR ARMY IS A PEOPLE'S ARMY

(Continued from pag. 1.)

ing the first two periods of the war, was organized upon a Popular Front basis by one of the great popular political parties of Spain, the Communist Party. The directors of the Fifth Regiment, Comrades Castro, Lister and Contreras, from the very beginning organized all their companies upon a definite military basis, with proper training, and with technical staffs and specialised departments. It was in the first week of August that the Fifth Regiment began to appoint political commissars, who functioned without legal status until the government decree of October 15th. The first article demanding formation of a regular army appeared on August 2nd in "Milicia Popular", the organ of the Fifth Regiment. Here we see in these two instances the appearance of characteristics that were to distinguish the army in the second two periods.

2.—THE AWAKENING PERIOD

Largely as a result of the efficiency and propaganda of the Fifth Regiment there was a widespread and powerful popular demand for a regular army and on October 10th the old militias were militarized by an order of the government. As a result of this the FIRST MIXED BRIGADE, commanded by Comrade Lister, was formed. Commenting upon this governmental decree in a speech on the 11th of October at the brigade barracks Comrade Lister referred to the Romantic Period thus: "We have seen day after day small bands and little groups of militiamen going out to the war front just when they took it in mind to do so, and who enlisted whenever they chose. When anyone approached them and said 'this position must be occupied' they used to reply 'who are you, you are wearing stars!', then you have nothing to do with us. Even if you hadn't got stars we should take no notice of you. Our chief is this comrade". And the chief of the group was often one who, for one reason or another, was not interested in fighting at that moment. And thus we found that we had at the front several thousand combatants, but only on paper, because in fact they did not fight when necessary, not by reason of their own fault, but because they were neither organized nor

disciplined." The heroism of these comrades was beyond all question, but Comrade Lister was certainly not exaggerating.

THE FIFTH REGIMENT

Before referring to the results for military organization of the historic defence of Madrid during

membered that the Fifth Regiment, originally intended to be 1,000 strong, had reached 70,000 in the Madrid region alone, with another 45,000 in other parts of Spain. The various departments of command were therefore progressively suppressed. By a brigade order of the 15th of December the First MIXED BRIGADE liquidated all the separate batta-



CAMPESINO, outstanding 5th Regiment leader now Brigadier General.

the first two weeks of November it will be useful to trace the growth, activity, and eventual merging of the Fifth Regiment in the regular army. It must be born in mind that the Communist Party had not organized the Fifth Regiment in order to possess a force of its own and it was as a result of its own propaganda that its members were handed over to the government. While the formation of the MIXED BRIGADES began on October 10th there was still thirty per cent of the Fifth Regiment remaining under its own command on the 27th of December. Indeed it would have been disastrous to abolish that command until every soldier had been fitted into his place in the new brigades. It must be re-

lition commands which it had in various parts of Madrid, surrendered all war materials and personnel and entered the Hortaleza barracks to begin a corporate existence. Again by a Fifth Regiment Order of Dec. 28 every military department Operation Intendencia or Supplies, Sanitary Service, Shoemaking department, tailoring department, armoury, etc. were handed over to the brigades. Comrades responsible for these departments for the most part began similar work in the regular army; thus we see that not only the forms but the actual personnel of the new army was derived from military forces not directly organized by the government. Of all the department, only those of Social Work and Organization were

to continue, in an advisory capacity, until the last Fifth Regiment soldier had entered the army.

HUGE ECONOMY IN EFFECTIVES

The importance of this voluntary surrender of autonomy can be seen by referring to a speech by Comrade Lister, given on the 23rd of December.

Referring to the new army he said that efficiency would be enormously increased and added "We in the Fifth Regiment had already begun a cleaning up which is still very necessary in certain parts. For example, such battalion used to have its own command in Madrid, to each of which there belonged approximately a hundred bureaucrats. Many stripes, and many stars, while the majority had not seen the front even from a general barracks! All this has been suppressed. Two or three individuals to each command are more than sufficient for all the office work which a battalion can occasion. You will understand the importance of this when I tell you that in Madrid there used to be 60,000 meal rations given out every day to people who had not fired a single shot."

Finally, on January 27th a vast public meeting in the Cine Goya was held to celebrate the complete liquidation of the Fifth Regiment, and this it must be remembered, was long after the event had actually occurred. Other political parties began to follow the same line and with the final inclusion of the C. N. T. troops in the regular army this process came to an end.

WHAT DOES THIS PROCESS DEMONSTRATE?

It is obvious at the first glance that the vast bulk of the men in the Republican army have been drawn from the political regiments which grew up in the Romantic period. That they make up a People's Army there can be no possible doubt. But the officers of the new brigades, such as Lister and "Campesino", have also largely been drawn from these earlier formations. These had originally received their appointments from the various political parties belonging to the Popular Front.

But more conclusively than this the special characteristic of the



CAMPESINO, Commander of 5th Regiment visits war industry factory.

Republican Army, its possession of political commissars, was derived from the nature of the political war in which the whole people was engaged. These commissars, which exist and will continue to exist, have as one of their tasks the maintaining of just that kind



CARLOS CONTRERAS, former Detroit Automobile worker, Editor of Chicago worker's paper, former Political Commissar of the 5th Regiment, is now in charge of propaganda amongst enemy ranks.

of political enthusiasm which guarantees that the army shall never become a danger to the democratic Republic.

ALWAYS FROM BELOW

The way in which governmental decrees in this Awakening period tended to legalize existent facts, rather than to impose a structure from above can be seen from the

decrees governing the status and work of political commissars. The order of October 15th, given by the Minister of War, appointed Comrade Del Vayo as Commissar General. He was to be aided by 4 sub-commissar generals drawn from the greater organizations of the Popular Front; these sub-commissars were to appoint lower ranks. But within the ranks of the actual field commissars themselves, no grades or categories were established, because the army itself had no uniform organic structure. In other words, the people were still making their army from below.

As the army crystalized into definite shape as a result of party propaganda and experience, the decrees began to distinguish ranks in the commissars. For instance, the order of November 25th, by which date about 65 % of the Fifth Regiment had been merged with the Mixed Brigades, established the ranks of brigade, battalion and company commissars.

THE NATIONAL GUARDS

The general argument can be supported from the history of definite governmental forces, such as the National Republican Guards and the Carabineros.

The National Guards are the successors of the old universally hated Civil Guards, former strike breakers and political tools, imbued for the most part with reactionary ideas and practising the most brutal of methods. This conversion did not come about as the result of a government decree but as a consequence of a movement from within.

Before the July rising there had been within the old Civil Guards both political factions and Popular Front groups, and while these were not strong enough to ensure the loyalty of the majority, they did much to win over many guards to the Republican movement.

After the Franco rising these groups definitely worked for the suppression, or conversion of the force, and finally became strong enough to do this on their initiative.

A central committee was formed, headed by Sergeant-Major Vega and from its offices in the basement of the Ministry of the Interior in Madrid, began to recruit into its forces. These forces, it must be understood from the very beginning were on a military footing of long service and rigid discipline. Like the Fifth Regiment it was originally intended to be only a small body yet by November about 15,000 were within its ranks. There quality can be seen from this, of the 4,000 fully trained men on the Madrid Front alone by November 11, 206 were dead and 693 wounded; about 22 %.

The forms its general staff adopted again show the popular and political nature of the National Guards. It has four sub-committees; Investigation, to prevent the entry of fascist and disruptive



LISTER, former Commander of 5th Regiment, is now General in Command of the First Mixed Brigade.

GERMAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUES HELP TO FRANCO

In spite of all pledges and statements to the contrary, the German Government continues sending of no end of armaments to the Spanish fascist armies.

The story of the Marienbourg is a good illustration of what is happening. The Marienbourg, a Danish freighter flying illegally the flag of the Republic of Panama was about to sail from Hamburg a month ago loaded with boxes marked "Chocolate" and other such innocuous freight. One of the chocolate boxes broke open and the longshoremen found to their surprise that it contained a shipment of dum-dum bullets. The workers immediately inspected the whole cargo, which was found to consist of airplanes, to be assembled, of tanks, machine guns and to a considerable part, of specially constructed electrical switches for use in torpedo boats. All instructions to these instruments were in Spanish.

The city of Freiburg in Baden, Germany, is excited because every three days a squadron of airplanes with all German army insignia painted over, arrives at the airport. The aviators make no secret of the fact that they are bound for Southern Spain. Planes depart morning after arrival.

Along the Swiss border the German Government is building great number of barracks. The number of soldiers stationed now at that border is five times as great as before the last war. Constant manoeuvres are taking place in south Germany. New barracks are sprouting like mushrooms. In Rudolphzell, on the Swiss border, a new barracks has just been started which is to hold several thousand infantry soldiers, machine-gun crews, anti-aircraft batteries, etc.

types, and Promotion, to appoint officers on the basis of good service; the other two departments at that time (November) being Organization and Supplies.

Summing up so far, the argument that the formation of the Regular Army constitutes a danger for the Spanish popular revolution is founded, when honest, upon ignorance of the army's history. However, the objection is usually made in bad faith. Next week we shall study the siege of Madrid, especially in its relation to the evolution of the Higher Command.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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A SOVIET MILITARY SPECIALIST ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE JARAMA BATTLES

Izvestia has recently published an intensely interesting article by a famous military scientist, A. Golubev, which consists of an analysis of the Jarama battles, from a strategic point of view.

We give a careful summary of this article because, in conjunction with the remarks of the *Times* correspondent quoted elsewhere, it will enable comrades of the Brigade to understand the importance of the role they have played in the fight against International Fascism.

"These battles", says Golubev, "are not only characterised by the fact that they were terminated by the most bloody struggles yet witnessed in Spain, but that they marked a turning point in the rebel plans for the capture of Madrid".

Original fascist plans fail.

Only a few months before while the rebel armies were marching on the capital, their generals quite confidently expected to take the city without serious fight. On the basis of this optimism they neglected to conduct serious operations designed to cut the roads to Valencia and the coast. It was during this period that the fascists undertook the frontal attack on the North and North-west of the capital which have so signally failed and which have cost them so dearly. From this springs

their attempt to plunge into the plains north of Madrid with intention of taking the republican forces in the Guadarrama region in the rear. The success of this enterprise would have permitted the rebels to undertake an attack from the north and the east with the support of the forces which had already passed the chain of the Guadarrama. In spite of a cer-

tain improvement in their positions, this plan, taken as a whole, failed in its intention.

Fascists change strategic plans.

"The offensive", Golubev continues, "which the rebels and their allies undertook on February 6th south of Madrid were based upon

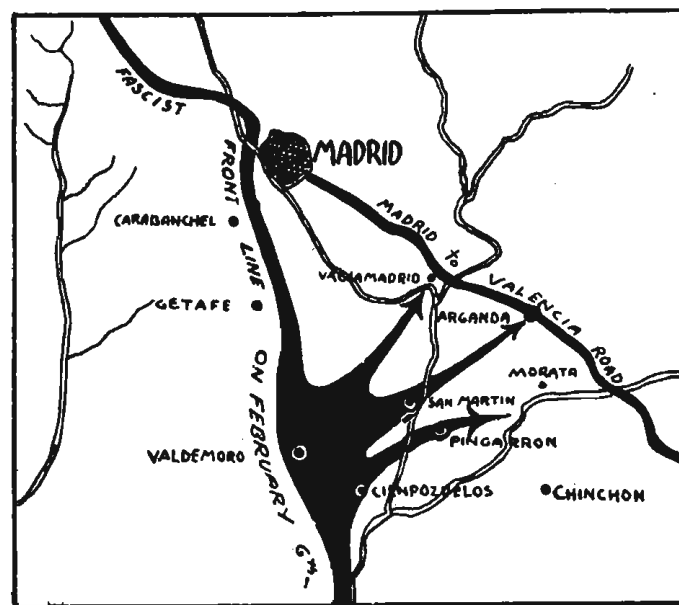
different premises and a different plan of action. It is strikingly evident that this plan had for its aim not the immediate taking of the capital, but the investment of the principal positions which would have enabled them to sever all connections between the capital and the Guadarrama front and the rest of Republican Spain. The success of this plan would have shortly created a situation which, if not impossible, would have been extremely prejudicial to the continuation of the struggle".

Since from the beginning of November the communications of Madrid with the rest of Governmental Spain were the two great Madrid-Valencia highways—the one via Tarancon and Arganda, the other via Guadalajara and Cuenca, the rebels planned attacking these two roads of communications. While the body of troops under General Moscardo were got ready at Sigüenza, those of the Fascist General Orgas (7th division, Moroccan and Italo-German troops) commenced the operations along the Pinto and Valdemoro line with the object of occupying the line of Arganda.

Fascist attack launched.

Golubev writes: "The attack commenced on the 6th of February, when, profiting by misty weather, the fascist shock troops con-

THE BATTLE FOR THE VALENCIA ROAD



The three arms fascist thrust towards the Madrid-Valencia Road.

(Continued on page 7.)

FASCIST PLANS FOR WORLD WAR

At 5:45 on the morning of 31st of May, a German Squadron, engaged in so-called Control bombardment of the open port of Almeria, killing many citizens. Afterwards the German and Italian Governments withdrew from the Non-Intervention Sub-Committee.

We shall not attempt a description of this cowardly act, every decent man would have heard the news with cold disgust but without surprise. It is important however, to realize the purpose of the act and to be on guard against adopting that line which Hitler and Mussolini would have us adopt.

It must be remembered that the Spanish Government at the League of Nations Session had just

Nations in which it lamented (of course) the Spanish situation and proposed to continue working out a plan for the withdrawal of non-Spanish fighters. Finally it expressed its horror at the bombardment of open cities. Next morning the German squadron poured hundreds of shells into Almeria.

There can be no possible doubt, the act was not only a piece of fascist sadism, but it was intended as provocation. To What? Undoubtedly to war!

Aiming at World War in a terrific gamble for internal security and world domination the fascist governments have supported Franco in order to control the Mediterranean and encircle France. War

Spanish will have steered, that an army had been forged out, that a new and immensely more active government had come into existence, the fascist powers sought to withdraw from the Control Committee and to plunge the world into war.

On guard, therefore, against accepting this mad challenge on the eve of great changes.

What must the Spanish Government do? Can it hope that the League of Nations will come to the aid of Spain? Can it hope that Great Britain will change its policy and permit France to do the same?

It would be best for the Government to conduct a great recruiting drive, to build up reserves and consolidate the army. And, simply, comrades, that is being done.

STILL STUDYING

As an alternative to a Senate Bill, which would require the taking of a census of the unemployed, the Senate Committee on Education and Labor has decided to report favorably on the measure appointing a commission to "study" the general problem of unemployment and relief. The argument against the direct taking of a census is that unemployment reflects only a "temporary condition" and that it would be costly.

Roosevelt demands 1,500,000,000 dollars for relief in the fiscal year 1937. It is likely that the House will give its consent, but to secure the approval of the Senate will be more difficult.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PROTEST TO HITLER

Following the Almeria incident, Pres. Roosevelt promptly left his Hyde Park home, where he was resting, for Washington to take up with Secretary of State Hull, the critical European developments.

Hull officially expressed to the German Ambassador at Washington, the U. S. Government's disapproval of the unnecessary and provocative shelling of the civilian population of Almeria, and demands that the Hitler Government make quick restitution for its acts.

The strike of Hollywood studio workers has been ended.

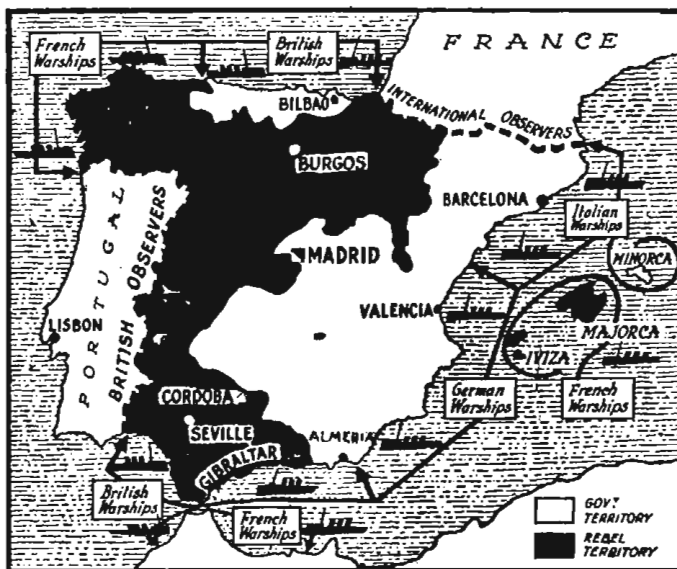
FORD'S 19,689,020 SURPLUS

The Ford Motor Company increased its surplus during 1936 by 19,689,020 dollars, making a total surplus of 602,666,000 dollars according to a balance-sheet filed with Massachusetts State officials.

Incidentally, Henry Ford's son, Edsel, must appear before the Detroit grand jury soon, for having used physical violence at the gate of the plant against his workers. Poppa's boy is getting tough! The idea of one big industrial union that is growing rapidly among the workers of the Ford Auto plants makes the Ford family desperately nervous.

The United Automobile Workers of America may sue Ford for distributing anti-labor literature, contrary to the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

INTERNATIONAL CONTROL IN SPAIN



This map shows the distribution of foreign warships and observers stationed in order to prevent breaches of the Non-Intervention Committee's International Control Scheme which came into operation on April 19.

presented a White Book on Italian intervention and a protest against the terrible crime of Guernica. A few days later the German war-ship "Deutschland" illegally anchored in Ibiza harbor, opened fire on Republican planes, who replied with great effect.

That same day the League of

and rearmament are the very techniques of the so-called fascist "revolution". The internal contradictions of the inherent fatalism of fascist demagoguery drive them forward to this.

Then, seeing that they have failed, confronted with the defeat at Guadalajara, aware that the

ROOSEVELT PLANS LABOR LEGISLATION

President Roosevelt may recommend to Congress the passage of legislation establishing maximum wages in all great industries engaged in inter-State commerce. The President's plan would include:

- (1) The creation of a commission with broad powers, whose aims would be to bring about a 40 hour work week, hourly minimum wage of 40 cents, and a weekly minimum wage of 16 dollars.
- (2) The commission to adopt the principle of flexibility to meet seasonal variations in industry and to avoid imposing a single standard over the whole country.
- (3) Prohibition of the transfer of goods between States made by children under 16 years of age.

Senator Blanck and Representative Connery, co-authors of an earlier measure providing for a 30 hour week, are prepared to introduce a Bill on these broad lines.

PAUL ROBESON IN SOVIET FILMS

Paul Robeson, the famous American Negro singer now living in the Soviet Union, has agreed to act in Soviet films. He is to take the leading role in "Othello", following which a film will be made from the well known American labor play "Stevedore".

DEVELOPMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S ARMY

The Fascist Assault on Madrid.

In the last article we saw how, under the terrific impulse of indignation, enthusiasm and realization of historic purpose, the Spanish people turned itself into an army. Through confusion and blunder, by trial and error, the people's own instincts, guided by great political parties and aided by their government, evolved forms and methods which sharply distinguish the People's Army from any Imperialist Army.

This is a phenomenon which has been observed again and again in the history of great popular struggles of independence and revolution. The special characteristics of the Red Army are due, not to the abstract thinking of military idealists, but to the nature of the political struggle out of which it was born. And the success of the army of the French Revolution was not only due to the military

of military knowledge, in particular because after her relief of Orleans she would not pursue (and destroy as she might have done) the routed English, because the day was Sunday. But it was

strategic incompetence by military scientist of almost all countries, but it has not been often pointed out that his failure partly springs from political ignorance. In other words his foredoomed

chose to attack the capital directly helped the Republic to form its regular army. The policy of defending the city at all costs was therefore the salvation of Spain. There never was a clearer proof that defeatism is not a proletarian or popular policy (there were some pessimists who urged the abandonment of Madrid).

At the same time as it hastened the formation of the regular army the assault on Madrid also gave the army an even deeper popular content.

THE FATEFUL DAY OF NOVEMBER 7TH

The week following this date will be remembered as being the turning point of European history. The fascist advance, steadily sweeping back the militia arrived at the very outskirts of Madrid. At once the left political parties sprang to action, the streets were filled with people listening to Popular Front speakers calling for yet more volunteers. All through the day and night hastily formed battalions were rushed out to the thin trench line that had been drawn between the rebels and the city. The regional committee of



"Non Intervention" in the skies attacks half armed militia.

that incident that explains her role. In the immensely different political and religious atmosphere of her day, she was the Political Commissar of the Bastard's Army.

It is only when the currents of feeling drive deeply into the popular spirit that a real People's Army is created. This occurred in Russia and is manifestly happening in Spain. Such armies cannot emerge if the structure of a decadent and oppressive society is left entirely untouched. To relate this to our particular problem, where is the economic and class basis for a reactionary higher command which the disrupters profess to fear?

It has been seen that the old Spanish officer class was drawn from the great landed families. What has happened to their estates? That question is sufficient for those who know how to understand what is happening in Spain.

FRANCO'S STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL BLUNDER

"If a Military Coup d'Etat does not succeed within a few days it never succeeds." This has been remarked of countless rebellions; it is true of Franco's also. The rebel General had been accused of

direct assault on Madrid shows that he had never grasped the fact that a whole people is in movement, and that the capital city would justify its claim to be the capital.

Franco saw indeed that progressive Spain was about to deprive the feudal classes of their power, but he judged that to be the work of mere "political groups". From this false premise he deduced that Madrid would fall before his first blow. It would have done, so had not the Popular Front had its roots deep in the people, if the army had been merely the artificial creation of "political groups" in office, Madrid would now be a fascist city. But it was a political people which turned itself into a political army! A Popular Front people into a Popular Front Army! Month after month that army held back the enemy at the very gates of Madrid, until Franco was forced to change his plans. Too late! By then a regular army, disciplined and increasingly capable of maneuvers had been formed.

THE ATTEMPTED SIEGE OF MADRID

It can be said definitely that the fact that the fascist rebels



Colonel Ortega, famous Commander of the Center Forces. Now chief of Security.

the Madrid Communist Party, in a historic effort, organized company after company of street fighters and shock troops, and itself



Every wall on the outskirts of Madrid became a front line.

genius of Napoleon and the often-forgotten organizational genius of Carnot, but to its early penetration with the People. The same is visible in Cromwell's army of the English 17th Century. The 14th century in France has the example of the Bastard's army. Indeed this latter has special parallels. Bourgeois historians have spent chapters in trying to define exactly what was Joan of Arc's role in the army. Military experts have often scoffed at her for lack



General MIAJA. — On November 7 he became chief of the defense of Madrid.

went into action at Carabanchel Bajo. Many of these formations had no arms whatsoever, ill clad and shod in canvas shoes without training, they streamed out to the barricades to take up the rifles of the wounded and killed.

Just as the people of Madrid merged with the army, the army spoke directly to the people. On the eighth of November the Fifth Regiment issued these instructions to those behind them.

"(1) Every resident must provide himself with bottles of gasoline, stoppered with cotton wool, to be ignited the moment of being thrown from balconies, windows and roofs, against armoured cars and tanks.

(2) The Fifth Column must be exterminated within the space of a few hours. The inhabitants of each house must form vigilance committees, to arrest provocateurs, to search for arms etc.

(3) The inhabitants of every block and quarter must organize the struggle at every street crossing, constructing barricades and trenches, forming groups of vigilants, taking every initiative.

(4) Every citizen must regard his house a fortress and must put it in the condition of being a bulwark of the independence of our people against Moors and Legionaries.

The second of May 1808 can be repeated in our beloved city!..."

During the the month preceding

already on the work lists must be at the places appointed by their organizations with their lunch cans"... It was out of this fortification corp that the present engineering and sapping corps of the regular army were formed. The U. G. T. Building Workers Syndicate of Madrid has today about 60 % of its 25,000 members in the army, mostly in this department.

THE BEGINNINGS OF A CENTRAL INTENDENCIA

The unity of army and people can be seen in such examples as this; the Villegas Radio (district) of the Madrid Communist Party, in conjunction with the United Socialist Youth and the command of the Sergeant Vasquez Battalion supplied 600 meals a day to the front lines, collecting the neces-

sary money and performing all work itself, besides undertaking the washing of clothes. Previously this "civilian" organization had dug the trenches this battalion was occupying.

And on November 9th the Vasquez Battalion gave 1,524 pesetas to Popular Front organizations for the same work. Out of a mosaic of such "civilian" organizations and the battalion supply services Intendencia eventually crystallized.

To take another department; Maria Medina, popular women's leader with 17 women of the northern sector of Madrid, during the first week in January, organized a collective laundry for the troops. None of its workers received pay for the immense labor of washing and repairing clothing, and it was not until May that this laundry was handed over to Sanidad (Medical Corps).



Hastily formed militia resist fascist drive on Madrid.

people of Madrid had been demanding that the government should build fortifications and prepare trenches. This the government had not done, for various reasons.

Responding to the call of the political parties and syndicates a Mixed Fortification Committee of the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. was created and at once began with desperate energy, if small military knowledge to fortify Madrid. Bands of workers, men and women and children, urged on by beloved figures like Pastonaria, feverishly hacked at the ground with pick and spade. An order of the 9th of November of this Mixed Committee says, "those not

Comradé ANTON, forefront organizer of the Madrid defense.



EMERGENCE OF UNITED COMMAND

On November 7th, the Government of Spain left Madrid. It was not the leaving, which should have been done earlier, but the manner of it which was deplorable. Hurriedly and with no precise instructions General Miaja who had been in command of the Madrid defence troops was given sole authority over the city. At once the Junta de Defensa was formed. Its Popular Front nature is evident from a list of officers:

President: General Miaja.
Secretary: Fernando Frade, Socialist Party.

The immense prestige of the International Brigades and the discipline upon which this was founded

spread throughout the fronts around Madrid, until now by far the largest body of troops and the best organized, the armies of the center, are under the command of General Miaja.

It cannot be denied that the Defence Committee, the nerve center of the Madrid resistance, was a Popular Front organism. The army which grew up around it, with all its levels of command, was necessarily so.

Naturally as its composition shows the Committee performed many functions which, proper enough to a military authority in time of semi-siege, do not rightly belong to it. As a result of comparative normality in Madrid conditions, and the higher degree of organization reached by the ar-

my, during May the Defence Committee was dissolved and the City Council once more came together.

Many problems remained to be solved and these we shall examine later. For instance, on December 9th the Valencia Government created the Supreme War Council. Why this Council never or rarely functioned is a political problem which demands attention in another article.

GUERNICA

The flames which are burning Guernica are also lighting Germany. So that the whole world may see her.

HEINRICH MANN



The people's fight against fascism in July days.

Councillor of War: Antonio Mije, Communist Party.

Public Order: Carrillo, United Socialist Youth.

War Industries: Amor Nuño, C. N. T.

Supplies: Yagüe, U. G. T.

Transport and Communications: Carreño España, Left Republican.

Finance: Jiménez, Republican Union.

Evacuation: Caminero, Syndicalist Party.

Undoubtedly the Defence Committee hastened the unification of the center forces. In this they were greatly aided by the International Brigades who from the very beginning considered themselves as a part of the regular Span-

ish Army. The appointment of its General, for instance, was at once sent to Valencia for confirmation.

ded did much to help the remodeling of the army. At the same time the Defence Committee was able to conduct operations with more efficiency than the Ministry of War which was involved with other necessary work of government. That the Junta was a much more adaptable form of administration can be seen by the fact that on December 3rd, it reorganized itself and while reserving considerable military autonomy placed itself under the authority of the Valencia Government.

The Councillorship of War disappeared and was replaced by one of Milicias, Antonio Mije becoming



Friends of Lincoln Battalion on Fifth Avenue in May Parade.



Militia at rest during the Camp de Campo attack.

ish Army. The appointment of its General, for instance, was at once sent to Valencia for confirmation.

ing Commissar General for War. Thus from the core of the Defence Committee crystallization

UNREST IN ITALY

In Genoa, recently, when the dusk was falling the walls were suddenly covered with huge slogans, "Down with the Duce, Long live Anti-Fascist Spain, Down with Fascism".

Immediately the authorities ordered that all lights be turned off, and under cover squads were sent out to clean the slogans off the walls.

Apparently, however, as fast as one slogan was removed, another appeared. In fact those responsible for chalking up the ori-

ginal slogans took advantage of the order of darkness to continue their work.

The authorities gave it all up in despair. But the next day many arrests were made in working class districts.

Meanwhile stories continue to reach the outside of constantly increasing unrest. It is reported that an Italian Regiment mutinied and that 200 members were shot. Unrest is said to be widespread in Lombardy and Piedmont.

TROUBLE IN THE FASCIST REARGUARD

The London Times of May 24th, the arch-conservative organ of the English bourgeoisie, the real top-hat boys, publishes an article from its Seville correspondent. Usually in reading the Times reports on Spain one has to remember that the gentlemen of the Carlton Club have high blood pressures and the Franco police have prisons to fill with daring journalists. This time it looks as if a fraction must be at work somewhere. Anyway, let the Times man have air.

A War-Wearry Land

Under this sub-title the article goes straight to the point, thus: "The halcyon days are over. Much water has flowed past the bows of the Italian prison ship in the Guadalquivir since General Franco's rapid advance on Badajoz, his irruption into the Tagus valley and his triumphal march up-river to the walls of Madrid. Gone, too, are the days of patient and optimistic waiting throughout the long winter months, when the rain, mist and snow, according to the insurgent Press and wireless, alone held up the advance. Spring came in fitfully, and the hammer-blow at Malaga followed. Nationalist hopes flared up, remain-

ed suspended for a period, and then curved gradually downward. The expected follow through to Almeria never came. The planned offensive towards the shrine of the Virgen de la Cabeza and Jaen had to be abandoned in favor of a hurriedly constructed defensive line between Pozoblanco and Penaroya. And on the Madrid front the decision was postponed once more. The Jarama offensive, designed to cut the main highway between Madrid and Valencia, succeeded in embarrassing communication with the capital. But to people who remembered the spectacular triumphs of Irun, Badajoz, Toledo and Malaga, even partial success implied failure.

The greatest blow fell in mid-March. Nationalist propaganda had represented the Jarama offensive as a complete success. There remained only one more road still capable of feeding Madrid, the secondary road passing through Guadalajara. With the seizure of Guadalajara, the investment would be complete and the fall of the capital through exhaustion inevitable."

ITALIAN LANDINGS

The article writer looks around for a minute to see if any falangists (of whom he is clearly contemptuous) are snooping around and decides to go on:

"By the beginning of March reinforcements had arrived, most of them from abroad. Throughout the winter Italian troops were landed at Cadiz and Algeciras with arms, ammunition, artillery and transport. The earlier arrivals were taken in their big Fiat lorries, adorned with sinister inscriptions glorifying Signor Mussolini and Death, and thrown into the attack on Malaga, where reputations gained in Abyssinia were enhanced in the coastal sierras. When the operation was completed a number were dispatched to points on the long, broken front curving from Pozoblanco through Andujar and Granada to Motril. The rest were withdrawn to Se-

ville and together with later arrivals (the last considerable Italian detachment landed towards the end of February) were then moved up to the north and concentrated in the neighborhood of Soria and Sigüenza. The final "assault" on the capital began".



Worried?

After a few displays of courtesy to the fascist authorities the Times man once more opens fire:

"Something had gone wrong. General Queipo de Llano explained on the wireless that for technical reasons the advance had been held up before Trijueque; that a short pause would be necessary to consolidate the positions captured and straighten out lines of communication. Soon afterwards he admitted that Brihuega, garrisoned after its capture by a "handful of civil guards", had been evacuated owing to its unfavorable strategic position. From that day, the subject of Guadalajara was quietly dropped".

COMPLAINTS MANY AND VARIOUS

The consequences of the Guadalajara disaster were mixed, ac-

cording to the correspondent, but though mixed they were all bad. First, he says that fascist propaganda has always laid great emphasis on the extent and enormity of foreign intervention on the behalf of the government. The means, of course, the huge fleets of bombing planes gladly dispatched by Comrade Eden and the massive batteries offered by comrade Roosevelt! Then he says:

"The stubborn resistance of the enemy to the Italian infantry inevitably raised the question in the minds of the civil population: Have we been misled? While the "backs to the wall" propaganda of the Republicans had steeled their supporters to stern endeavor, insurgent propaganda tended to soften theirs by prophesying easy and early success. The result is disquieting, most of all in Andalusia."

ABSENCE OF COMBATIVITY

Naturally all Spain is behind Von Franco, though the support is rather negative in character he finds it necessary to explain:

"There is a great deal of unseemly nervousness whenever it is rumored that a new class is about to be called to the Colors."

RADIO-SEVILLA



A study in alcohol.

BANKRUPTCY APPROACHING?

Difficulties of a material kind also hinder the victory of "law and order", lack of manufactured goods, for instance:



Well to the front, but not at the front.

"Though Italian textile manufacturers stepped into the breach created by the stoppage of trade with Catalonia, they are now finding difficulty in collecting payment."

But this was not the only type of difficulty. "Pardonable exuberance on the part of the Moors and Legionaries returning from the front led to progressively earlier closing of the bars, cabarets, and dance-halls a process that was accelerated by the arrival of the quick tempered Italians." Possibly it was not merely a question of quick temper, for, "Many of the Italians had previously been stationed in Abyssinia. They brought with them habits acquired in that country. They assumed too readily that the Spaniard was a poor fighting man and made little attempt to hide that assumption. And, as a result, a certain grim satisfaction was felt when the news of the retreat from Brihuega spread. Dislike was spiced with a touch of anger and contempt."

THE OLD OLD STORY

Like Primo de Rivera, Franco claims that he has put an end to the anarchy of the Popular Front rule. The Times man repeats this gag: "The dominance of the Casa del Pueblo and the trade unions". (Checked by wholesale massacre of the working class.) "The arbitrary decisions of the labor tribunals." (Which insisted on wage rates being observed.) "The bands of sturdy beggars." !!! "The inaction of the police." (Which usually failed to arrest fascist gunmen.) "All these factors that made life always difficult and sometimes dangerous under the short rule of the Frente Popular are still memories of the recent past."

This represents the sum total of the complaints against the Frente Popular Government. Every comrade will see that they are the time honored objections raised by the Thouroughly-confortable and the bourgeois Cafe Loungers against every progressive government. This gives even more value to the testimony of the London Times Correspondent. Atta Boy!

A SOVIET MILITARY SPECIALIST ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE JARAMA BATTLES

(Continued from page 1.)

centrated on the Pinto-Valdemoro line, composed of three or four regiments, or eight or nine thousands men, with a support of at least a battalion of tanks and about 50 or 60 pieces of artillery, attacked a sector which for a long period had not been in action, and which was weakly defended".

This first attack was partly

rama. They advanced four or five kilometers, effectuated a second crossing of the Jarama River to the south of San Martin, and approached the Pingarron heights.

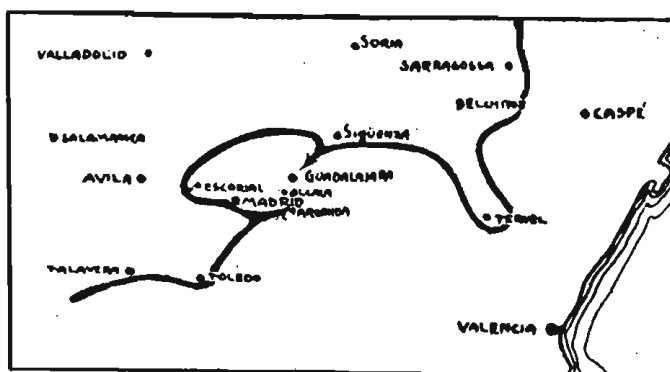
On the 13th and 14th of February, massing their reserves on the left bank of the Jarama, the rebels carried out a new thrust towards Arganda and Morata. The 14th of February with a concen-

ican forces reached the Jarama near San Martin, endangering the fascist right flank. On the 22nd and 23rd the loyal forces advanced two or three kilometers. A furious attack was opened by the fascists on the 24th of February with the intention of improving the position of their right flank, but this was nullified by the loyalist counter-attacks. Later governmental counter attacks, while they did not succeed in rendering the fascist right flank untenable, definitely put an end to the enemy's initiative.

In terminating his account, Golubev expressed his opinion concerning the campaign as a whole. He shows that the rebel objective has not been achieved. The fascist advance has created certain comparatively unimportant difficulties for traffic along the Valencia road, but it has not made things any easier for the fascists. Their own Madrid front is provisioned by two routes only, of which one, that of Avila, is threatened by Republican forces, which occupied Robledo during the Jarama battles.

Finally, in a brief appreciation of the military value of the respective forces the Soviet technician draws attention to the tremendous powers of counter-attack possessed by the Governmental troops.

THE MAP OF BLASTED HOPES



General strategic plan of fascist attack against Madrid.

crowned with success. The rebels advanced in three directions, to the North towards Vaciamadrid, to the south towards Ciempozuelos and in the center towards San Martin de la Vega. However, the Republican command, during the rebel plan, sent reinforcements into the threatened sector. After the taking by the rebels of Vaciamadrid, Ciempozuelos and San Martin the counter attack began on the 9th of February on the Vaciamadrid line, where the Manzanares bridge was retaken. "On the 11th or 12th of February, continues Golubev, "and synchronized with the arrival of reinforcements the rebel command directed its efforts towards the east in order to become masters of the Valencia road between Arganda and Perales. On the 11th, after intense artillery preparation the rebels succeeded in passing the Jarama River between Vaciamadrid and San Martin with a force of five battalions and a tank corps. On the 12th in spite of Republican counter-attacks the fascists succeeded in broadening their lines on the left bank of the Ja-

trated attack of five or six battalions, 30 or 40 tanks and supported by intense artillery fire, the rebels succeeded in advancing several kilometers along a six or seven kilometers front and in approaching the Valencia highway. Nevertheless powerful counter-attacks supported by artillery and tanks stopped the rebel advance and pressed them back almost to their original positions".

Government troops begin terrific counterattack.

The rebels showed no initiative on the 15th of February and their right flank, was repulsed without serious effort. That day's action proved, according to Golubev, that the rebel shock troops under Orgas were exhausted and incapable of achieving success.

After having described the campaign of the second group of rebel forces attacking on the Guadalajara line, Golubev deals with the Republican counter-attacks which began on the 17th of February. On the 21st the Republi-

THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR AT GENEVA



ALVAREZ DEL VAYO

SWISS PEOPLE BEHIND SPANISH REPUBLIC

Organized by the Association of Friends of the Spanish Republic, a huge meeting was held which was attended by more than 2,000 people that unanimously adopted a resolution in support of Spanish Democracy. The resolution says:

"Two thousand wise citizens united in the Victoria Hall of Geneva express their indignation of the criminal bombardments of the civilian population of Spain by the Hitler and Mussolini aviators. We demand a complete change of attitude of the government of Switzerland toward Spain. We urge that the Spanish Government be energetically defended against all those who are attempting to destroy it. We appeal to all those who believe in democracy and to the working class to prepare to strengthen the victory of the Spanish people, encouraging unity of all Republican forces and giving organized aid."

BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR RESPONDS TO PRESSURE

Rockwell Kent, celebrated artist, headed a delegation representing various organizations, who protested against the arch sentence passed on Brazilian leader Carlos Prestes. The ambassador officially promised that a commission would be allowed to visit Prestes and the other political prisoners.

RESIGNATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Tokio government resigned recently. The anti government parties have constituted a bloc. The military, however are active, and demand an even more pro-fascist government.

We have received the following telegram, which we are pleased to publish,

Regret shortness of stay compels me to send written greetings to all friends of Spain especially my fellow Americans in International Brigade and hospital units
Long Live the Spanish Republic. -- NORMAN THOMAS.

THE FIVE YEAR PLAN

In the summer sowings, 25% of the land had already been sown by last May. The state collective farms filled the plan for the year to 63%. The Kolkovs sowed 71 million hectares of land as against 60 millions last year.

BANK STRIKE

The clerks of the Casablanca commercial bank, Morocco, have gone on strike for a rise in salary, and have occupied the premises. It is remarkable that the bank clerks, last to take part in the social movement, should go on strike.

THE BARBER SHOP



Cleanliness in the rough.

ON THE AMERICAN FRONT

STEEL BATTLE ON

Ninety-thousand steel workers, under the Committees for Industrial Organization, walked out on strike when steel "bosses" refused to come to terms with the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee. The strike is spread over 5 states taking in 15 cities.

Embarrassed by the fact that some big steel plants have signed agreements, "independent" American firms, producing 40 per cent of the country's steel, are preparing for a fight to a finish with the C. I. O.

President Murray, Pittsburgh C. I. O. chief, has exposed the fact that criminals and notorious gangsters are being used as strike-breakers. The steel plants have on hand large supplies of tear gas bombs, machine-guns, and rifles, which are placed at the disposal of the police-defenders of "law and order". Large supplies of food for the scabs who are being forced to remain inside the plants during the strike are being stored. One of them is reported to have bought refrigerators, beds, linen, and other needs for the long siege.

In Chicago 5 steel strikers were killed by police; many more were injured in clashes on the picket line. Mass pickets around the plants demanded the immediate arrest of the perpetrators of the crimes, and the immediate evacuation of the strikebreakers.

Some steel plants have resorted to dropping of food by airplane to their "loyal" workers jailed within the plants.

MORE GERMAN WORKERS

CONDEMNED

For the first, the German press has been compelled to admit the existence of numerous trials of German workers who are accused of sympathizing with Republican Spain. It is announced from Karlsruhe that the tribunal of the town has sentenced E. Kempp to 14 months hard labor, and A. Dingler to 6 months imprisonment.

These two workers were accused of having wished to get to Madrid to enroll in the loyalist ranks to fight against international fascism.



Getting the grub.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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THE POLICY OF BRITISH IMPERIALISM

During the whole course of the Civil War and invasion of Spain no question has been put more frequently than the following: What is the basis of the British Government's policy towards Spain? Again and again the attention has been drawn to the apparently glaring paradox that an imperialist power whose most vital interest demands the keeping of control over the Mediterranean should permit Italy and Germany to threaten of take that control from it. And with Italy installed in the Balearic Islands and Germany with powerful interests in Spain and the North Coast of Africa opposite Gibraltar (Ceuta) the threat would become an accomplished fact. Or again, since it is evident that the fascist dictators are attempting to surround France with a ring of anti-

democratic powers (a fascist Spain, Germany and Italy), why does not the British Government safe-guard its old and possibly future ally? To answer this question we must begin by asking two more. What is the British policy? and what is the National Government doing at home?

TWO TYPES OF POLICY

The first is a policy of so-called Non-Intervention which in effect has been connivance at Italo-German intervention.

The second has been Mediation. The half-hearted and soon abandoned attempt to dissolve the whole struggle between foreign fascism and democracy in Spain. In this type of policy can be included the attempt to withdraw "non-Spanish combatants".

Non-Intervention was undoubtedly a British invention, forced upon France, whose Popular Front Government in July 1936 asked London whether it would support France in the event of war breaking out as a result of the Blum Government aiding Spain. The answer was that the French Government should expect no aid from the British Government.

It must be noticed that the British Government has persistently striven to include the violating powers, Italy and Germany, within the machinery of Non-Intervention, knowing perfectly well that they would break their word. Today, after the bombardment of Almeria, the British Government is still negotiation with Hitler and Mussolini to bring them back into the Control Committee which they have left in an effort

to provoke war. In other words, the British Government is prepared to tolerate any criminal hypocrisy provided no public declaration of war is made.

At a certain stage mediation between Franco and the Spanish Government is proposed. This fantastic idea must have some significance: what is it? Is it the desire to put off a decisive event and by causing a state of stagnation and indecision to gain time or to shelve the whole issue? Does it represent a desire to avoid a world out-break by persuading Hitler and Mussolini to withdraw? If so, then it is pouring a spoonful of oil on a raging ocean. Nevertheless, though its policy is actually ADVANCING the out-break of war, it appears that the British Government is PLAYING FOR TIME.

(Continued on page 6)



Once a Spanish city, PALMA DE MALLORCA is now Italian. Fascists have used the Cathedral as an ammunition dump. In this harbor Italian ships are now illegally moored.

Pension law for defenders of democracy enforced by New Government

The "GACETA DE LA REPUBLICA" for May 21, 1937, No. 141 publishes the following decree:

"Because the emergency becomes more pressing daily and because the legal decrees concerning the rights of those who are fighting for the People and for the Republic's cause have not been enforced and because the rules of procedure for obtaining pensions have not been made public, the following has been decreed:

Following an agreement arrived at in the Council of Ministers, and after a motion by the President, the following has been decreed:

Article 1.—All personnel within the cadres of the armed units of the Defense of the Republic against military rebellion, as well as the civilian functionaries which, within the same conditions have or will be rendered invalid after July 17th, 1936, within the terms and circumstances specified by articles 62, 63, and 64 of the Statute of Pensions in force, shall have the right to receive a pension, the amounts specified by the mentioned articles and by Art. 60 and 61 of the same Statute in relation to the one which stipulates the salary of 10 pesetas pay for soldiers and corporals, volunteers and militias not included in the regular army payroll.

Article 2.—The corps, units or dependents within which they shall have rendered their services, those afflicted by invalidity or disabled, shall be careful to continue to keep on their respective payrolls the names of the above mentioned cases until those interested shall have presented the legal papers of procedure here in described:

a) Request to the Director of the Public Debt and of Pensions to solicit the pension.

b) A certificate made by the chief of the Corps or Unit in which the interested person was serving or in the supplementary case mentioned in article 2 of the War Ministry Circular of October 4, 1936. In this certificate there shall be described the war event in which the wound was received and also the salary re-

ceived by the presumptive invalid.

c) A medical certificate accrediting the invalid with the injuries claimed.

Article 4.—The presentation of the above described file shall be sufficient for the Finance Treasury to include him in the payrolls of the Pension Funds with the same pay they received when in active service, and starting with the date of exclusion from the original army unity.

Article 5.—The Direction of the Pension Fund shall take cognizance of the files as described in article 4 and shall act according to the rule established by the Pensions Laws of September, 15, 1932.

Article 6.—The Decree of August 11, and the supplementary orders shall be considered supplementary of this law with the exception of the food pension noted in article 4 of the order previously mentioned.

Article 7.—The President of the Minister's Council and the Ministers of National Defense, Interior, Finances and Economy shall establish the rules for its enactment.

Valencia on May 19, 1937.—*Manuel Azaña*, President of the Republic.—*Juan Negrin*, President of the Council of Ministers."

GENERAL MOLA



He's prettier now that he's got wings.

ALL INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS MUST BE RETURNED TO SPAIN

A group of European working class leaders have written a manifesto asking the end of fascist aggression.

A group of personalities well known in the International Labor Movement now in Spain, and among whom are: Julius Deutsch, Austrian; Luigi Gallo, and Pietro Nenni, Italians; Jean Delavigne, Belge; Francois Billous, French and Franz Dahlem and Heinrich Kuttner, Germans, have issued a manifesto which we publish here and which was the result of the dangerous situation provoked by the bombardment of Almeria.

"The bombardment of the open city of Almeria by the German warships, has proved that International Control is only a fraud on the part of the Fascist Governments. The International situation has reached a dangerous point of tension. The fact that the fascist states have decided to no longer participate in the Control proves that, after veiled intervention they are getting ready to carry out open war actions on Republican Spain, provoking thereby a serious war danger for all Europe.

In face of this, we feel obliged to declare that we are in every way on the side of the Spanish workers, which in their last appeals have demonstrated that they will remain united in the future, as they have in the past, in their fight against the fascist rebels, for the defense of liberty and for the independence of Spain.

These parties and organisations have asked the international workers movement to strengthen their solidarity towards Republican Spain with vigilant actions. These actions, if properly carried out can be as profitable on the political arena as they have been on the humanitarian field.

We hope that workers organizations and all other anti-fascist forces of the world will give evidence of the same cohesion and of the same indestructible unity in the fight against fascism, and we remind the workers that their goals have never been reached except thru their own efforts.

The realization of this unity can

end the vacillations and the equivocal moves of the governments which are in contact with the Popular Front Government of Spain. We ask them to concentrate all their forces towards obtaining the following:

1. The withdrawal of German and Italian warships from Spanish waters.
2. The end of all blockade against Republican Spain.
3. To end the foreign intervention in Spain and to strongly oppose fascist governments from increasing their intervention.
4. To return to Spain all its International Rights."



A peaceful little street in Almeria, now a shambles.

U. S. OPINION STILL GROWING

The Spanish Ambassador in Washington, Señor De Los Rios, states that in North America, especially in the United States, public opinion in support of the Spanish Republic is growing stronger day by day.

SPANISH SHIP RELEASED

The Washington Court of Appeals has judged that the Spanish Merchant Ship "Novemar" is the property of the legitimate Spanish Government and has ordered the Brooklyn authorities to immediately set it free.

THE GOVERNMENT TAKES ACTION IN CATALONIA

As one of the measures taken to prevent a repetition of the recent disgraceful events in Catalonia, the Government on June 4th dissolved the Patrullas de Control (The Control Patrols). Some explanation of this may be useful.

After the July days street vigilance and the control of communications were necessarily in the hands of the Popular Front organizations. While effective, there was naturally little organization of the work, with the result that far too much man and rifle power was used. Barcelona, long after all danger had passed, appeared full

THE PARTIES REACT AGAINST PATROLS

On May 15, therefore, the Plenum of the United Socialist Party demanded their suppression. Previously, that party's delegates had been withdrawn; the U. G. T. had already done the same. Then the Esquerra (Catalan Left Republican Party) ordered its representatives to withdraw because on the morning of the rising "the patrols received orders frankly hostile to the Government". (Who gave these orders?)

Meanwhile the special judge appointed to enquire into the events of May 6 had been compelled to dissolve individual patrols. For instance, on the 23rd of May the Junquera Patrol on the French border was abolished. In this region some of the Patrols were working in conjunction with terrorist bands, as at Orriol where the same judge arrested 4 men who had taken part in the murder of 17 innocent people, mostly peasants who had objected to such things as forced collectivization. This band had terrorized a whole region, the villages of Orriol, Vilahur, Calabuig and Bascara. At a house called Hostal de Dalt (The Upper Inn) a large store of modern arms was discovered.

At Puigcerda this judge also unearthed a whole arsenal of 21 rifles of unspecified type, 79 Remingtons, 28 Mausers, 20 Muskets, 26 Winchester, 49 Carbines, 384 Shot-guns, 126 hand grenades, 11 boxes of rifle ammunition, 74 cases of dynamite, 4,000 percussion caps, a case of machine gun belts, two sub-machine guns and a mortar. The types indicate that this material had been stolen from the Aragon Front which the Trotskyites say has been starved of arms by the Valencia Government acting on the orders of Moscow!

THE LAST STRAW

Then, during the Government's search for arms in Barcelona the provocative role of the patrol was put beyond doubt. Assault guards, while searching a house for illegal arms, were shot at by members of a patrol. The National Guard who protested at an illegal house search by a patrol was murdered. Other crimes finally disgusted even their last supporters. With the people hating the uncontrollable of the "control", with responsible organizations like the U. G. T., the Esquerra, and the United Socialist Party denouncing them, the Government dissolved the counter-revolutionary units on June 4th.



ANTONIO SESE, General Secretary of the U. G. T. of Catalonia, murdered by pro-fascist elements.

FASCIST CABINET PLOT SPOILED

According to news from rebel Spain, June 7, was to be the day that a Government presided by General Mola was to be instituted. This government was to be formed under the oath of General Franco, chief of Nationalist Spain, without waiting for the fall of Bilbao.

The ex-Count De Rodezno, former leader of the Carlist Party, was to have the Portfolio of Administrator of Foreign Affairs.

The accomplishment of this scheme was prevented by the "unfortunate" death of the "beloved" General Mola, and now it appears that in view of indignant pressure by foreign countries toward the latest fascist atrocities the formation of this illegal cabinet will not take place, at least not at this time. The new chief of the fascist at Burgos is General Jordana, a fascist politician, bed-mate of Hitler and Mussolini.

COLLECTS COMMISSION

From reliable sources it is learned that the rich banker, Juan March, arrived at Gibraltar a few days ago after having raised 300,000,000 francs for Franco abroad. Collecting first his commission, he turned the balance over to his stooge, Franco.



LUIS COMPANYS, President of the Generalitat of Catalonia, a staunch friend on the Popular Front.

of an armed population. Rifles nevertheless were lacking at the front! Finally, in order to regularize this work, in October the Generality created the Patrullas in which were representatives of all parties. On the whole this was a distinct improvement.

Unfortunately, many elements were admitted who bore no loyalty to the Popular Front Government; Trotskyites, uncontrollable, and other disrupters. The result was that there were grave abuses in certain districts. As a result of these and of the diminished utility of the Patrols masses of people began to demand their suppression. Some of these patrols even played an active part in the fascist and counter-revolutionary rising of May 6.



VICENTE URIBE and ALVAREZ DEL VAYO, two strong guarantees of progress and democracy in the New Government.

THE ANTI-FASCIST FIGHT ON THE WHEAT FIELDS

The Spanish field workers and peasantry are on the eve of the climax of the agricultural year, the reaping, threshing and winnowing of the wheat crops. Upon the successful carrying out of this work, undertaken at the end of June and throughout July, not only the prosperity of the field workers depends but the welfare of the anti-fascist army and the future of Spain.

Before describing the measures taken by the Popular Front Government to assist this work it may be interesting to know how harvesting is done in Spain. Naturally there are many grades of technique in use from the most modern to the most primitive. As a general rule the methods will be quite different from those used in the States or in Great Britain.

To begin with reaping. Large collectives and cooperatives will

possess reaping and binding machinery, mostly imported from abroad, but a very large part of this work will be done by sickle and scythes. The comrades of the transport service may see the scythe and cradle in use; with this tool a deft movement of the wrist leaves the wheat in a neat pile ready to be gathered into sheaves.

THE THRESHING FLOOR SURVIVES

It is in the threshing that the greatest difference is to be seen. To begin with the most primitive tool, the flail. All comrades will know what this is, in principle two sticks of wood with a flexible joint of leather or chain with which the wheat is beaten. This however is not much in use in Spain. Almost as primitive is the "trillo", the oldest from of which is still widely in use, particularly

in the great mountain chains which are the feature of the Spanish landscape. The trillo is a kind of sledge on the underside of which, instead of runners, are rows of sharp flints embedded in the wood. (The artist has had a shot at drawing a trillo and a scythe and cradle.) More modern examples have blades of metal, while trillos of industrial manufacture are fairly common. These are in principle the same but have ranks of sharp edge steel discs or wheels instead of flints or blades. Threshing machinery also exists.

THE MEANING OF A PHRASE

The manner of using the trillo is simple. Wheat is thrown on to the era or threshing floor and the trillo is drawn round and round by an ox, horse or a mule (or yokes of them) thus cutting up the whole stalk and head into a



A "trillo" and cradle scythe.

mixture of chaff and grain. The biblical phrase "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth the corn" refers to just this operation. It is possible that comrades will already have noticed the "eras" or threshing floors. They look like small dancing floors and in fact during village feasts are often used for this purpose. Usually circular, they may have a floor of beaten earth or of brick paving or fine cobbles and very often are surrounded by a low wall, to prevent the wind blowing directly onto the floor and about the right height for taking a breather.

During the operation of threshing the long stalks are raked out by women or children and from time to time the short chaff and grain are swept aside. This mixture is then flung into the air for the wind to separate, this operation being usually done by women. Motor-driven winnowing plant was gradually coming in, but was usually too expensive for the peasantry.

It is to this back-ground then, that the effort of the government and the Popular Front Parties must be related.

BEHIND THE LINES



Summer work on wheat fields, no longer under the lash of the landlords and for their profit.

THE COMMUNIST PARTY MAKES A CALL

On the 8th of June the National Agrarian Commission of the Communist Party issued a stirring appeal to the Popular Front masses, from which we take the following: "Comrades, we are on the eve of the gathering of the wheat harvest. In conjunction with this there goes a whole series of concrete measures to assure the people bread. The preparation of the machinery, cleaning of the grain stores, the creating of shock brigades to work all necessary hours in competition, the opening of trenches or plowed areas to prevent spreading of fires on the larger sown expanses, and this in order to foil the incendiary activities of the enemy aviation; the helping of towns by other towns, etc., in order that not a single grain remain ungathered



Typical Castilian peasant.

to elaborate plans to guarantee the gathering in of the wheat crop. In all important towns Assistance Brigades must be formed to go into the countryside..."

In Madrid these shock brigades have already begun to be organized. Groups of mechanics in particular are being collected to tend the agricultural machinery. To bring all these operations into an orderly plan, to insure the peasants and field workers receiving justice and a fair price, as well as to conserve the grain in the most efficient way, the Minister of Agriculture has issued a decree signed by President Azana and dated June the 7th. Summarized it is as follows:

Article 1. The Minister is authorized to take over wheat crops on a basis of payment. The proportion necessary for seed will be reserved, as also that required for the collective or individual consumption of the owners of the crop.

Article 2. Enacts that the local authorities shall furnish lists of crops and storage places and other necessary information to the agricultural authority of the region.

Article 3. Chiefs of agricultural departments will exercise inspection in order that Article 2 shall be observed.

Article 4. All operations in wheat shall be authorized by permits taken out from the agricul-

tural authorities in purchasing regions and presented for indorsement to authorities in selling regions. Applications from Basque and Catalan areas must be made direct to the Minister of Agriculture. No wheat may be moved without permit.

Article 5. Permits will be granted to municipal supply committees and official organisms. All other bodies requiring special concessions must apply to the Minister.

Article 6. Neither provincial nor municipal councils shall place taxes on wheat. Regulation of wheat commerce is entirely in the hands of the Minister.

Article 7. All other regulation are annulled. The present law shall be presented to Cortes (Parliament or Congress).

The Minister of Agriculture recently declared that it was necessary, in order to encourage production, to guarantee to the growers that they should not be despoiled by "incontrollables", and that a fair price should be given for produce. In this decree we see that he has kept his word. No more chaos in agriculture! No more so called "socialization" against the will of the peasants! In this way the civilian popula-

tion and the army will be guaranteed their bread without which the Spanish people cannot defeat the fascist invaders. All success to the Minister of Agriculture!

NOTE

The printer of last week's edition robbed 5,400 of the meals. In the article "The Development of the People's Army", subchapter "The beginnings of a Central Intendencia" we intended to say that the Villeras unit of the Communist Party supplied 6,000 meals a day not 600. We ask readers to excuse spelling mistakes as the Spanish comrades who set up the "Volunteer" find the English language more troublesome than the readers find the Spanish.

JEAN HARLOWE DIES IN HOLLYWOOD

Jean Harlowe, well known motion picture actress, died in Hollywood a few days ago.

Although she was often compelled to act in insipid or even reactionary roles, she always succeeded in relieving the boredom or vileness of the plot by superb acting. Jean Harlowe was one of that little bunch of actors, who for years worked towards the unionization of the motion picture industry. Before her death she saw the craft organized, and in militant action.

BELGIUM GOVERNMENT GIVES

The Van Zeeland Government of Belgium has just contributed 230,000 francs to the International Committee of the Cruz Roja for the aid of Loyal Spain. In the past week more than 100 mass meetings were held to express the solidarity of the Belgian workers for the Spanish people.



A peasant-soldier, a common sight now.

and that not a single arm remain idle in the rear-guard. During this campaign in every town or village throughout loyal Spain, the Municipal Councils, the Agrarian Committees, Administration Committees, Field Workers Unions, Collectives and Peasants Cooperatives must get together



The editor does this sometimes for swank.

THE POLICY OF BRITISH IMPERIALISM

(Continued from page 5)

WHAT IS IT DOING AT HOME?

The outstanding, mountainous fact is that the British Government is conducting a terrific rearmament. In the course of the next 5 years it proposes to spend at least 10,500 million pounds or 42,000 million dollars! It will spend 88 million pounds in 1937 on the Air Force alone, while 143 warships are at present in construction, 5 of them giant battle-ships and 20 the most modern type of cruiser. British industry is thus being converted in a startling manner a war basis, with a consequent boom in engineering stocks.

AGAINST WHOM IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ARMING?

It is the British Empire which the Government seeks to defend, naturally, and principally what may be called the Great Line to the Far East; that line of exploitation which leads through the Mediterranean Colonies and areas of influence, Palestine, Arabia, Egypt and the Sudan, and onward Past Kenya to the center point of India, thence to East Indies, Borneo, New Guinea, the British interests in Malaya and finally Singapore and Hong-Kong and the huge capital investments in Southern and Central China.

The three danger points are obviously the Far East, the Mediterranean, and the English Channel. The first no doubt has hitherto been the most likely spot for an outbreak of war, the English Channel has certainly been the most vital strategically. It becomes more vital to control it now that the war peril has so dramatically shifted to Europe. The question, therefore, is who might gain control of the Channel and the Mediterranean and how can that be avoided, according to the British Government, until such time as its rearmament is completed?

BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY IN POST WAR PERIOD

A brief analysis of this will help us to answer the question against whom is Britain arming. It would have seemed most reasonable for Great Britain to have

firmly supported a general policy of International Disarmament and collective security (but without a great army and navy, how could India and the Eastern possessions be forced to remain in the Empire?) This the British Government has not done. It has done the contrary. Failing to strengthen the League of Nations and failing

TOWARDS THE U. S. S. R. BORDER.

Yet another paradox presents itself, the fact that the British Government and the British financial oligarchy has aided German rearmament and has pursued a policy toward the Hitler Government which has undoubtedly increased its arrogance. Not only did Hitler find financial help in the city, but the master trust Im-

LITVINOF



Champion of a regenerated and effective League of Nations. Feared by Hitler and Mussolini.

elsewhere to pursue peace policies. In 1931, for instance, the United States Government twice vainly approached the British Government to get it to issue a joint protest against Japanese aggression in Manchuria. The British Government preferred to shift the Far Eastern war danger northwards, away from Hong-Kong, and

perial Chemical Industry has supplied Germany with the vital war necessity nickel. Why has the British Government taken this line?

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S FEAR OF COMMUNISM

Here lies the key to the confusion and contradiction in the

foreign policy of the reactionary British bourgeoisie. Whatsoever problem emerges in the world it is Communism which is at the bottom of it. If the masses of India demand their liberty, it is Communism. If there is trouble in the Far East, then the Communists are about to drench China in blood. The French Popular Front Government is Communist, the Spanish Government, above all when it defends itself, is yet another mask for the Communist Peril. And above all, seeing and hating the tremendous successes of the Soviet Union, the British Government turns toward Hitler as a dam to the Red Flood.

And yet there can be no doubt that it was primarily the fear of German rearmament which prompted the British Government to its present colossal arms drive. Especially when Hitler and Goering demand the restoration of former German Colonies and begin to entertain speculations such as "if we had only a tiny fraction of the British Empire." But there was another outlet for German Imperialism, mentioned by Hitler at the Nuremberg Congress of the Nazi Party. The Ukraine.

And that provides the solution. "Why not remove the peril of Communism and the danger of German Imperialism by encouraging Hitler to attack the U.S.S.R.?" This was the brilliant idea which the British bourgeoisie conceived. Meanwhile, playing always for time, the British Government piles up a crushing mountain of armament (crushing to those who will have to provide the profits and the interests). The armaments may be necessary. If Germany attacks the U. S. S. R. and is beaten?... Or if in the last resort the British Government decides to go to the aid of Hitler against the Moscow terror?... Or if Hitler strikes at a spread-eagled and shaky Empire? In any case 10,500 million pounds invested and yielding profits will provide some comfort. Therefore, for the present play for time. Even if Spain be martyred because of a sightless and blundering policy which actually brings war nearer by strengthening fascism.

IS THERE ALTERNATIVE POLICY?

Perhaps it was not simple confusion that prompted the British Government's Non-Intervention policy. Aware of the canker at the heart of British Capitalism,



North coast of Mallorca. Italians hope to fortify this and make a new Gibraltar.

confronted with "dissension" in the Empire the British Government began to look longingly at the apparent fascist solution and to think that Democracy was dangerous. Democracy began to look like Communism; especially Spanish democracy. The Spanish Popular Front Government of February 1936, liberal in program, and without a single Socialist or Communist among its ministers was yet another danger. Fearing a European war would break out before it was armed to the teeth, yet fearing the Popular Front democracies as well, the British Government adopted its present confused and disgraceful line towards Spain. A line which brings its own nemesis in the strengthening of German and Italian Imperialisms.

Yet had the Western Democracies taken a firm line and given

the Spanish Government its rights under the Covenant of the League of Nations there would have been no world war, and collective security would have received a mighty access of strength. Hitler and Mussolini would not have pitted themselves against a resolute world. There was another line, the line of the Soviet Union and Popular Front. The way of democracy and peace.

It is from this stand point that we must view the recent appeal of the Spanish, Socialist and Communist Party and the U. G. T. To their respective Internationals demanding unity of action in defence of Spanish democracy. It is not too late! If the world proletariat, and with it the progressive middle classes, begin a sweeping drive for a change of policy, above all if the Labor Party, and the English Trade Unions begin such a campaign the British Government may yet be forced to abide by the Covenant of the League of Nations and come to the aid of Spain. The British Government might even be driven out of office. What will the Second International and the I. F. T. U. do?

One thing is certain the Spanish people will fight on, and with them the true democrats of the International Brigades until the fascist invader is defeated. On Spanish soil the freedom of the world is being defended.

What do the Second International and the I. F. T. U. mean?

To the demands of Spanish democrats for united action among the three great Internationals De

THE INDUSTRIAL MOVEMENT IN BRITAIN

The advancing movement of the industrial workers in Britain has suffered a severe blow as a result of the settlement in the London Busmen's strike and the proposed Miners General strike.

In both instances the workers have failed to achieve their full demands, but in the case of the Heworth miners they have gained recognition of the M. F. G. B. and by the fusion with the Spencer Union the miners as a whole are in a stronger position to exercise control over the Spencer officials.

The fight of the Raworth miners was weakened due to the sectional character of the Miners Federation of Gt. Britain, the Federation being composed of District unions, one of which was the Nottinghamshire Miners Union. The strike has shown the serious need for a single Union with central policy.

The Busmen's strike was hampered at the outset by the refusal of the E. C. of the Transport and General Workers Union, to allow the Tramwaymen to come out alongside the Busmen.

The decision of the E. C. in ordering the men back to work on the vague possibilities of a seven and a half hour day, has created great anger and disappointment among the men.

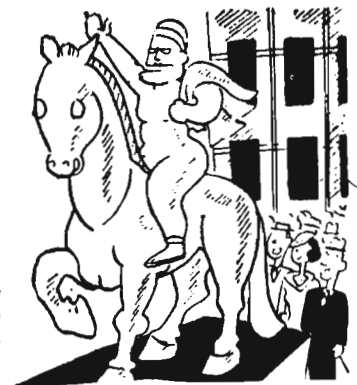
Despite these experiences the wave of unrest is rising. The Rail-

way Companies have rejected the men's demands for increased wages and improved conditions. There is a very strong feeling among the Railmen that the demands should be taken to the National Tribunal and if refused that strong action should be taken.

The Association of Postmasters, the National Union of Clerks, the International Textile Workers and the Co-operative Womens conference have all gone on record for the 40 hour week.

The Silversmiths have won all round wage increases whilst the engineers, dockers, aircraft workers, insurance officers and engineers in the chemical industry are all advancing wage claims.

The movement shows every sign of developing and has a real basis in the cost of living which has risen since 1933 by 2s 4d. in the pound and the terrific speed up in industries, which has been intensified in connection with the national government's rearmament programme.



Mister MUSSOLINI is absolutely shameless.

YUGOSLAV STUDENT PROTEST

Hundreds of Yugoslav students demonstrated recently before a Belgrade hotel occupied by the German Government official schemer, Von Neurath, protesting and shouting "Down with fascism" and "Down with Hitlerism".

The police dispersed the demonstrators and arrested a number of them.



Almeria. The footmarks of fascism.

CONGRESS OF THE BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY

The Fourteenth Congress of the Communist Party of Gt. Britain, which was held recently, was one of the most important ever held in the history of the British working class movement. Five hundred delegates attended along with many visitors from other working class organisations.

The Congress was remarkable from the outset by its high note of enthusiasm, which was particularly demonstrated when comrade D. F. Springhall, who was wounded in the fighting on the Jarama front, rose to move an emergency resolution on the Spanish struggle.

The Congress adopted a strong note of condemnation of the British National Government, which in the terms of the resolution, was "attempting to reinforce Franco's efforts to carry through a blockade of Spanish ports"... has consistently helped Franco by its support of the policy of non-intervention and who together with Hitler and Mussolini is the main accomplice of Franco".

The Congress stated that the "mediation" proposals of the British Govt. were designed to save Franco from defeat and to deny the legal rights of the Spanish Democratic Government. The Congress stressed the heavy responsibility which lay upon the leadership of the Labour Party and Trade Union Congress for having weakened the fight of democracy against the fascist onslaught, by its support of the Government policy of "non-intervention" and refusal to undertake any campaign in support of the Spanish People.

A glowing tribute was paid by the Congress to the British Battalion which it declared "has saved the honour of the British working class movement".

The Congress emphasised its complete solidarity with the new Peoples Front Govt. in Spain and the policy which it has outlined and sharply condemned the Trotskyist P. O. U. M. for its attempt to provoke armed warfare in the rear "in the interests of Franco".

J. R. Campbell sharply criticised the I. L. P. for its support of the P. O. U. M. exposing the I. L. P.'s false analogies between the situa-

tion in Barcelona and that of Russia in 1917 during the Kerensky period.

Campbell pointed out the historical and practical difference in the two situations; Kerensky represented the fundamental forces of Russian capitalism. Neither the Government of Catalonia or the Republic is Kerensky. They represent the Popular masses and the decisive influence is in the hands of the working class organisations.

The fundamental forces of Spanish capitalism are represented by General Franco!



After an aerial bombardment of Valencia.

Harry Pollitt stated that "we are seriously desirous of working with the I. L. P. and every other working class organisation but we cannot tolerate any longer a situation where unity is made the cover for disruption and disintegration".

The Congress demanded freedom of trade for the Spanish Government withdrawal of Italian and German ships and troops, the application of League Sanctions against the Fascists, material aid, refuge for the Spanish children and support for the British Battalion.

Greetings from the Congress were sent to the British and Irish comrades and to the American Battalion.

BRITISH ARMY RESERVISTS AND PALESTINE

The annual conference of the British Legion adopted a resolution expressing its dismay at the lack of provision for the return to regular employment of reservists who had recently been called to the colours for service in Palestine. The mover of the resolution Captain E. A. Jones stated that it made him wonder at the intelligence of the government departments concerned in expecting young men to join the colours when they would not look after the reservists after a special job of work.

RESULTS OF Mr. DUFF COOPER'S RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

The results of Mr. Duff Cooper's recruiting campaign as stated in the House of Commons by Mr. Hore Bellisha, his successor are.

A deficiency in the regular army on May 1st this year of 24,670 as compared with 11,755 a year ago.

A deficiency in the territorial army on May 1st was 49,634 as compared with 49,184 in the previous year.

DAILY WORKER TIPS DERBY WINNER

Cayton of the Daily Worker scored a tremendous success by tipping Mid-Day to win the Derby. His selection was made in the same clear and unmistakable manner which is a feature of the advice given in the worker's paper. The Daily Worker was the only national daily newspaper to give Mid-Day Sun. To cap it all Cayton's nap Waterbird also won. This Double on the Tote was paid out at 44 pounds for a unit stake. Here's Health!

On receiving the news of the bombardment of Almeria, the London District of the C. P. immediately organised a mass lobbying of M. P.'s. at the House of Commons and a great protest demonstration in Hyde Park to be followed by a march through Central London.

RICH DODGE TAXES

In a preliminary report of an investigation by the United States Treasury, President Roosevelt reveals to Congress, that a "minority of very rich individuals" are deliberately evading taxation. He asks that an end to this practice be immediately put into effect.



The latest world shaking invention. Butter from coal bricks (for proletarian consumption).

U. S. WAR SHIP IN FLAMES

The "Ludington", United States war transport ship, with a cargo of high explosives on the high seas, went up in flames. The steamship "Limonray" and others went to its aid upon receiving its S. O. S. call.

STEEL STRIKE STILL ON

The steel strikes including more than 150,000 workers in the states of Illinois, Iowa, Ohio and Pennsylvania, continues with increased violence in some quarters.

The strikers are displaying excellent solidarity and refuse to give in unless their chief objective is conceded to them by the steel employers, that is—the recognition of the C. I. O. as their collective bargaining agency.

On the outskirts of Chicago thousands of strikers picket around a steel mill which has collected 2,000 professional strike-breakers from the human garbage dumps of the city. Scores of well-armed police and deputized guards escort these "scraps" into the plant.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. 1 - No. 5

Madrid, June 22 - 1937

APPEAL OF SPANISH WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS

On June 2nd the Spanish Socialist and Communist Parties and the U. G. T. appealed to the Communist and Socialist Internationals and to the International Federation of Trade Unions asking them yet again to undertake common action of the most determined kind against the Fascist intervention in Spain. The next day Dimitrov made known the text of a telegram sent by the Communist International to the Socialist and Trade Union Internationals to establish unity of action to defend the Spanish people.

De Brouckere's replied, stating that while they realised more than ever the need for energetic action, neither the Chairman nor the Secretary had the power to act on their own initiative.

Such a formal reply in face of such grave issues brought many



José Díaz.



Luigi Gallo, left.

A Victory for working class solidarity.

The fact that the meeting is to take place is in itself a tremendous achievement for working class solidarity. But can we feel entirely confident that even at this late hour there will be no voices in the meeting raised against united action?

Because of previous experiences we are forced to believe that if any such opposition arises, it will be voiced by representatives of the British Labour Party, and this would be exceedingly dangerous because of the decisive influence which the British labour movement commands in the councils of the Second International.

A tremendous responsibility



Maurice Thorez.

protests. The leaders of the 2nd International could not refuse the demands of the Spanish worker organisations in the face of the grim realities of the struggle in Spain and the rapidly growing demand of the workers throughout the world, for action in support of the Spanish people.

Socialists agree to meet.

De Brouckere sent a further telegram to Dimitrov saying "We too believe it is essential to reach an agreement on action on behalf of Spain and without needless delays" and asked the Communist International to inform him of the place of meeting.

Inspector of the Brigades to attend the meeting.

The Communist International immediately appointed comrades Thorez and Cachin of France, José Díaz leader of the Spanish Communist Party, Franz Dählem of Germany and Luigi Gallo, of the Italian Communist Party and Inspector of the International Brigades as their representatives at the meeting in Paris on the 19th of June.

The Republican press received the news with general satisfaction. A number of newspapers regret the costly delay which has occurred and consider the meeting as a victory of the working masses throughout the world.



Marcel Cachin.

rests upon the British working class to insist that the meeting decides for action and to ensure that action is energetically carried out.

All of us are in touch with working class organisations back home and each of one us has the duty of informing our comrades outside Spain of their great responsibilities and what this unity of action by the two great Internationals can accomplish.

The tremendous weight of opinion which has compelled this meeting must be strengthened by thousands of resolutions demanding not only food, money and medical supplies, but above all overwhelming pressure on the governments to end the tragedy of "non-intervention" which aids the Fascists; to outlaw the Fascists and secure the withdrawal of German and Italian ships and soldiers; to give the Government of Spain its full rights to procure war materials abroad.

This is no easy task, for too much time has already been lost, but it is well within the powers of the two Internationals at a time when the people of the world are revolted at the crimes of Fascism.

LANCASTER, PA. LOCK WORKS SHUT AS WORKERS WALK OUT

LANCASTER, Pa. — Fralim Lock Works is shut down through the courage of a group of workers who shut off the electric switch early Wednesday morning in protest against \$14 for 38-hour weeks and for refusal of Old Sam Fralim to negotiate terms with the C.I.O. into which most of the workers are organized.

AL SMITH IN ROME

Our old friend, Wall Street Brown Derby strutter, former Governor of New York, once Democratic Presidential candidate, Al Smith, is in Rome visiting Mussolini. It is well known that Smith is a vigorous fascist supporter.

While in the city he prayed at St. Peter's after being escorted to the altar by two Swiss guards. And he was received in private audience by Pope Pius XI at his summer home. To mark the occasion the Pope presented Mr. Smith an autographed miniature. The gift to the Pope was a miniature Empire State Building of gold. A good symbol of american capitalism.

General Luckacs is dead, he died a leader and a hero of the International Brigades

General Luckacs (Matei Jalka) one of the very best commanders of the International Brigades, is dead. He died, hit by a grenade, while inspecting the terrain over which his unit was to operate.

He died like a hero on the front line, at the head of his troops, as the generals of the people know how to die, the generals of the glorious Spanish popular Army.

An experienced commander, and a brilliant cavalry officer, well known writer on military questions, a courageous Hungarian antifascist fighter, General Luckacs was one of the first to offer his experience, his knowledge, his wisdom and his courage to the cause of Spanish Freedom.

To the appeal of the Spanish people, cowardly attacked by the rebel generals, traitors to their Country, and threatened by the airplanes and by the bombs of international fascism, General Luckacs, like a thousand others from all lands, left his peaceful activities to come to Spain and fight for the freedom of a brother people and for the independence and liberty of all peoples.

He was General and Commander of one of the greatest of the International Brigades. He was friend and brother of all fighters for liberty, he is a hero among the thousand of heroes who, in this epic war against fascism, make great the name of Spain and continue the noblest traditions of heroism.

He was at University City, during the memorable November days, when the heroic defense of invincible Madrid began. He was at Pozuelo de Alarcón, at Boadilla del Monte, at Mirabuena, at Majadahonda, on the Jarama, at Guadalajara.

He was always at the head of his unit, shoulder to shoulder with the most famous Brigades of the new Spanish popular army. He wrote memorable pages of military power and wisdom, pages which will remain in history.

In a few days he made his unit into a model of organization, of willingness to fight and of capacity for action.

He was among the most con-

vinced supporters for the Popular Front Government's orders for the creation of a strong army, united and disciplined, under a unified command.

But in the name of General Luckacs himself, our great lost hero, our flags are lifted again, once more to be carried forward, in the epic war of the Spanish peo-



General Luckacs.

The blind destiny of war has taken from the Popular Army one of its best Generals; has deprived us of one of our best Commanders, has taken from us a leader, a Comrade, a friend.

His teachings, however, remain. The magnificent military cadres trained by his schooling and by his example also remain; his splendid unit will continue its traditions of courage and combativity.

Every Spanish fighter, every volunteer for liberty, bows before the remains of the great hero. The colors carried in many battles and though many victories, are lowered for a moment.

ple, in defence of its liberties and of its independence and in defence of the future of progressive humanity.

LUIGI GALLO
Inspector-Commissar
of the International Brigades.

ITALY CAN'T PAY U. S. WAR DEBT

In a note, by the U. S. Department of State, to the Italian Government demanding payment of its war debt, Mussolini, through his Italian Ambassador at Washington replied that Italy is not in a position to meet any financial obligations at this time.

Spanish news in brief

THE HEIGHT OF CYNICISM

June 15.—The Executive Committee of the Catalan U. G. T. has announced that it will not enter into any conversation with the C. N. T. until it has received an answer to its proposals for a unity pact made on the 22d of May.

June 16.—The police have seized 3,000 bombs in possession of uncontrollables! The war ministry has at once sent the bombs to the front. No doubt POUM will protest against this counter-revolutionary use of bombs.

June 16. — Comrade Luckacs



What is it?

and other anti-fascist heroes of the International Brigades recently killed in Aragon front were solemnly buried in Valencia. The ministers of Defense, Agriculture and Education, Comrades Prieto, Uribe and Hernández, beside Alvarez Del Vayo and other Government figures were among the guard of honor. Comrade Gallo, Inspector of the International Brigades was also present, with leading representatives of the Spanish Socialist and Communist Parties.

June 17.—A Plenum of the Spanish C. P. has been convened. First problem to be studied is that of the creation of One United Proletarian Party and the strengthening of the Popular Front.

June 17.—The police have arrested the five principal leaders of POUM Andres Nin, Jorge Arguer, David Pérez, Andrade and O'tz. Nin has been transferred to a Valencia prison.

June 17.—Vigorous and successful offensive on the Huesca front. We wish to draw the mention to the fact that the Aragon front

Yesterday in the House of Commons the Sartorial Expert, Mr. Eden, announced "The German and Italian Governments from today onward recommence their collaboration in the work of the committee of Non-Intervention and the Sub Committee of Control. The House will note that both Governments have taken this position without receiving the securities demanded from both parties in the Spanish conflict."

It would be hard to beat this for cynical insolence. When a German battleship fires on Government's planes, and they reply, the German Control Fleet at once sails to Almeria and commits an act of war which even no decent belligerent would undertake. The German and Italian Governments at once demand 'securities', and Eden, not content with the farce of demanding these from the Popular Front Government, makes a hypocritical pretence of impartiality by demanding that Franco's airplanes shall not bomb German battleships! This is, of course, in case German battle-ships should ever open fire on Franco's planes!

The following is a summary of the text which Eden has sent both to the Spanish Government and to Franco: "First. It is begged of both parties that they give definitive securities that they will respect foreign warships on the high

has become INTENSELY ACTIVE since the work of reorganization begun by General Pozas, nominated by Valencia Government and welcomed by Catalan Popular Front Organizations.

JUNE 19.—Fourteen more leaders of the P. O. U. M. were arrested amongst them the Editor of "La Batalla". The whole of the buildings printing shops, and offices of the P. O. U. M. organ and every office and building of the Trotskyite party in Barcelona have been seized by the Government. Later in the day 50 more arrests were made. In the San Gervasio barracks of the P. O. U. M. several thousand complete uniforms and military outfits were found.

JUNE 19.—Andres Nin has been transferred to Madrid.

seas or elsewhere and that they will take measures such that their sea and air forces observe these securities. Secondly. With the object of avoiding attack or injuries to foreign warships of the Control when situated in ports of one or the other side, both parties are asked to make arrangements with the four Powers (of the Control) naming Spanish ports which can be used as bases by such warships and appointing safety regions in these ports. Third. Both parties must understand that every infraction against the security of attacks against Control warships will be considered as a question affecting the common interests of the Four Powers. Independent of whatever rapid means of legitimate defense may be judged necessary by the attacked warships, the Four Powers will seek an immediate agreement among themselves about what measures to take, taking into consideration the point of view of the interested Government."

What does this disgusting document mean? Does the third article mean that if a German cruiser again opens fire on Government planes that the British Government and the French will agree to whatever war measures Hitler and Mussolini may decide

to take? Does it mean that these Governments will agree to the bombing of say Valencia or an attack on Loyalist ships moored in Spanish ports? In any case are not Italian Government forces already bombing Spanish cities, and are not German planes doing the same?

So far the Spanish Government has given no official reply though Señor Giral, Foreign Minister, has stated that the Spanish people have a determined objection to allowing any German or Italian warships to enter Spanish ports or territorial waters. The presence of such ships would be an insult to the Spanish Nation. Moreover, remembering that German and Italian warships have taken an active and illegal part in preventing food supplies reaching Spain (sinking of the Komsomol and the attempted blockade of Bilbao and Gijon) are they to be allowed to put into Valencia and requisition food? Probably Mr. Eden expects the Spanish Intendencia to place teams of dock workers and a regiment or two at the disposal of the German Admiral, for revictualing fatigues; so that he may then go to sea and sink food ships.

Here is one task for English workers of the Second and Third Internationals, to undertake a nationwide campaign to remove the National Government. And this, if the Labor Party will cooperate with the other democratic and progressive parties, can definitely be done. In the interests of public sanitation Eden must be removed. VOLONTAIRE (inglés)

THE SARTORIAL EXPERT



Anthony Eden.

HOPKIN'S PROPHECY

In a speech at Scranton, Pa., W. P. A. Administrator, Harry L. Hopkins, prophesied to his audience that: within six months U. S. Labor will have been completely organized in the mass production industries. "And" he added, "nobody will be talking about it. It will be accepted as a fact."

Americans in Spain will have a hard time recognizing the rapidly growing class-conscious U. S. when they get back.

THE SICKLE THE RIFLE AND THE HAMMER



For three days peasants and field worker delegates from the Madrid province have sat in conference, brought together by the Agrarian Commission of the Madrid Regional Communist Party. It was the first time in Spanish history such a conference had been held: in fact, only in one other country can there have been a parallel event. For this was not a conference of trade union delegates meeting to discuss wage increases or relations with employers. It was a conference of peasants who themselves worked their land, with the aid of their government which has recently given it to them.

In the hall of the Madrid Ateneo, where formerly scholars and aesthetes waged learned debates, the peasants of Castile spoke of their problems, often passionately and sometimes bitterly, but always with that hard sense and determination which is the characteristic of the Castilian peasant. Collective, Cooperative, Reaping, Seed, Land, Shock Brigades! These were the key words of the conference.

THE DEMAND FOR HELP

Delegate after delegate demanded help, materials, seeds, or shock brigades to replace the men now in the trenches. A peasant from the little village of Daganzo, for instance, in a halting yet tremendously moving speech pleaded for help. In that village 80 men will



Deep plowing by means of heavy plows would save many crops from impoverishment by drought. The uppermost picture shows a type coveted in Spain. Both youth and old are represented among the delegates. One of the most thrilling things at the Agrarian Conference was the unity and cordial understanding between army and People. The picture on the right shows a commonly seen proof of this.

have to work desperately to reap 5,000 fanegas of land unless a shock brigade arrives. There are five reaping machines in that village and no one understands their use. Even the mules cannot be fully utilized because of shortage of labor. In some towns the field workers and workers of other trades have formed their own shock brigades. Colmenar possesses 33 of them, all pledged to work whatever hours are necessary to bring in the crops. In this town there are also special brigades to defend the fields from possible fire caused by enemy aviation.

At Vicálvaro the Municipal Council has decided unanimously that the whole village shall become a shock corps: "even the poor devil of a sacristan" the delegate declared, getting a laugh from the assembly.

The delegate from the hamlet of Anchuelo reported that they had partly solved their labor problem as a result of the visit of

question of field workers. It was said that women could not perform the heavy tasks required of them, but this was false. They had had to do it under the old regime often enough, and Anchuelo was proof that they were eager to help now. She went on to review the part played by women in the struggle against fascism. At Carabañas, for example, 200 women were collectively engaged in washing and repairing soldiers' 60 clothing. At Cercedilla they are helping to run a Home which



Comrade Julia Bea, the women's organizer of the Agrarian Commission. A group of 20 women was formed to carry on in the place of the men who had gone into the army. Today 30 women are in that group. This at once brought Comrade Julia, as she is called by the peasants, to her feet. The Party units have neglected women's work, she said, in this

supports 600 children. At Villalba there is a collective workshop producing rope-soled shoes for the army. It was a record of fine work, but the women were capable of playing a far bigger role than they were doing, and this neglect must be remedied.

UNITY OF ARMY AND PEASANTRY

At the third session Comrade Lister, Commander of the First Mixed Brigade, was given a tremendous welcome by the assembled peasants and field workers. In the course of his speech he assured them of the sympathy and the loyalty of the army. At a later session Comrade Modesto, Commander of the Fourth Army Corps, condemned one recent example of shameful conduct, in which the Intendencia of a certain military unit operating in the Guadarrama war zone actually demanded of a village the whole of its live-stock, 130 beasts,



U. G. T. Mayor reports on his village



Comrade Uribe, First peasant of Spain.

some of which were about to calf down. The villagers protested that this would ruin their economy for years to come, but to no avail. "Soldiers who behave like this are a disgrace to the People's Army and a danger to the Republic; this is the work of fascists and these people must be treated as such", General Modesto said. The Hortaleza delegate was prompt to remind the conference that the Lister Brigade had already supplied a shock corps of 100 skilled reapers to the Municipal Council of Hortaleza. Many other regiments have since done the same including units of the International Brigade. The Command of the English Battalion has approached the Mayor and Municipal Council of their town to discuss the way in which they can give aid to the peasants; the Lincoln Battalion has taken a similar measure.

Campefino, Dr. Pando, and other famous Commanders of the People's Army also took part in the discussion. It was a magnificent experience this, of realizing that in Spain a People's Army exists and that the peasantry trusts that army and asks help of its Generals, and receives it. One realized the reason for that trust and sympathy when one heard from an officer of the 69th Brigade that 90 per cent of the officers and men were peasants themselves, and had, before they

became soldiers of the Regular Army, helped to defeat fascism in their own villages. These men know that the army is their's because the army serves a Popular Front Government whose land policy has filled them with courage and hope.

INDIVIDUAL BRAVERY ALSO

Besides the record of orderly work there were also tales of heroism and devotion. The Mayor of Rascafrias, a little mountain town in the Guadarrama, has refused to leave his post though he has been compelled more than a score of times to shift his residence because of enemy shells. Despite constant bombardment and the danger of long range machine-gun fire, the field work has been carried on by 60 shock groups organized by the Mayor. It is almost unbelievable that despite these difficulties Rascafrias has provided more than a half million pesetas worth of produce since the beginning of the fascist rebellion. At Aranjuez last year, daring bands of young peasants actually reaped crops by night in territory already in the power of fascist terror; passing through our own lines in order to do it and receiving volunteer help from the militia. At Chinchon also, night work has been resorted to in the gathering of crops which were within range of enemy artillery. Two workers of Arganda, were killed gathering the olive crops in the

front lines. And these comrades were not merely "adventurists" or acting upon their own initiative but were communist peasants, members of the U. G. T., who had responded to a call from their organizations.

The conference did not tell of a story of simple plain sailing. It told of enormous difficulties and in the early days of absence of means to solve them; it was a story of increasing order as a result of systematic aid from the Ministry of Agriculture. But there were stories of error also, and let it be said candidly, of offenses against the peasants that they will never forget. We shall deal with the problem of the Collectives next week in a commentary on the new decree legalizing these units. But there were several stories of coercion, and in a few cases of definite crime committed by "incontrollables" who had lodged themselves within syndical organizations. On the other hand there were accounts of collectives which are doing splendid work precisely because there are composed of workers whose wills have been consulted. Of these Perales de Tajuña is a good example. In some cases small proprietors who do not yet wish to enter a collective have nevertheless formed co-operatives. In the case of one village the name of which we withhold a Committee formerly paid 70 to 80 centimos per kilo of peas to the peasants. During last week the newly formed Coop found that it could pay one peseta forty cents, bear all transport costs etc. and sell at the legal price of one peseta 85 cents in Madrid.

At the conference the city working class was represented by a comrade of the Northern Railway, which line is especially concerned with the work of supplying Madrid. A comrade of the United States C. P. gave greetings to the conference, as also one from the Italian Party.

THE BALANCE OF WORK

What were the negative notes of the conference? One has been dealt with, the failure to do intensive work among women; there were also a few rare failures to guide less instructed comrades in the village committees. Comrade Dieguez of the Agrarian Commission, in expressing his pleasure that in certain villages complete and warm hearted unity exists between the C. N. T. and the U. G. T., warned delegates against provocators who had clearly tried to antagonize the two great federations. The land was of the people and not of a section of the people, just as the conference was serving the interests of all they peasants and not only of those possessing one particular political ideal.

On the positive side the balance was enormous. The deep conviction of the peasants that at last they had a Government which understood their needs was put beyond question. Their determination to extort as much from the land as their present technique allows them was proved, not by pious statements, but by figures of production, hours worked, and men engaged. It was proved also by the fact that Madrid stands undefeated!



General Lister and other army leaders listen to the peasants.

THE IRON WILL OF THE SPANISH LANDWORKERS

One felt that one was taking part in a magnificent drama, indeed one knew that one was taking part in the incomparable drama of a popular revolution. Here were men who had been oppressed, who had been little better than slaves, whose forefathers had lived under the yoke for centuries, and at last they were struggling free. The writer confesses that it was a salutary lesson. To listen to those tales of body-breaking labor, of unbending will overcoming difficulties, shortage of labor, of seed, of knowledge (to administer a town with thousands of fanegas of land with only a handful of literate comrades is a tremendous task). And of sabotage by "los gandules" or the wandering trobadors of violence and demagoguery, made one feel that one's only difficulty were not so great as they had seemed. There was a feeling of power and purpose in the men gathered in the hall of the Ateneo, and at moments a deep and moving poetry, at other moments a fierce and blazing passion, all of it surging and deliberating within the framework of a clear and profoundly human policy.

It would be impossible ever to forget the speech of the delegate of Torremocha. A tall lean figure with the long head of the oldest of Spanish stocks, his face burned and fleshless from long years of labor under a blazing sun, of intense and searching gaze, he stood on the platform, speaking in public for the first time. "Mi pueblo es muy chico", he began. And no translation can convey the mingled modesty and



Sincere and thoughtful men have taken the place of the absentee señoritos.

pride in his tiny hamlet. "My town is very small. Two demands only I make. Once we had 180 men to reap our fields, now only 36 are left. You must send us help." He went on to recount the history of these 11 months of war and struggle in his village of 30 families, where already half the houses had been deserted before the war began. "Then I need twine to bind our wheat, I need 8 bundles and for each bundle I shall be able to provide wheat that will have the value of 1200 pesetas. And if you send help, send food also; we have not eaten meat for 10 months in our little town." There were bitter things in his speech, protests against old injustice; simple elemental sentences that were like the impersonal utterances of all the peasantry of Spain. The peasants rose to their feet and applauded fiercely. The time limit was forgotten as the conference listened to this summary and essence of all their stories. Afterwards there

was silence for a moment and then everyone rose to his feet and the International rang through the hall and corridors of the Ateneo.

A conference of peasants, confirming the policy of their Minister, Comrade Uribe, and speaking directly to him. The unity of Government and People was felt in a way one had never felt it before.

FORD'S ATTORNEYS ATTEMPT TO SPIKE COURT INQUIRY

DETROIT. — The battle of unionism against Fordism entered the courts as a one-man grand jury began an inquiry into the assault upon union organizers at the Ford plant little more than a week ago.

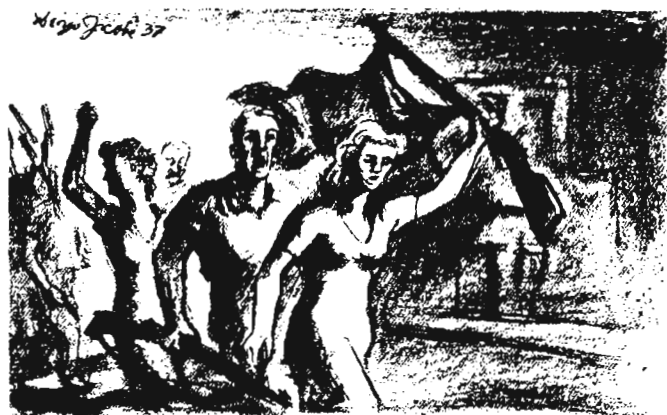
Although subpoenas were issued for Edsel Ford, president of the company, and Harry Bennet, commander-in-chief of its notorious service department, both succeeded in evading process servers.

Meeting of Socialist and Communist Internatinal

The news that Labour and Socialist International and the Communist International are to meet to decide on common action in aid of Spain will be welcomed by every member of the Brigades. Nowhere is there a deeper understanding than in the Brigades of how much international working class action can do to shorten the agony of the Spanish people and to lessen the danger of a world war. We know only too well that it has been lack of unity in the working class movement which has made possible the martyrdom of Madrid, Malaga, Almeria and Euzkadi. Throughout the struggle the sympathy of the working class has been with the Spanish Republic, but this sympathy has not been able to express itself in decisive action because the leaders of a very large section of the working class have not given the signal. Our earnest desire is that this signal will come from the meeting in Paris.

On May 1st, after Guernica had been destroyed, the Ex-President of the 2nd International asked Léon Blum in an open letter: "How long actually is this scandal, or as the Dean of Canterbury said, this ridiculous and tragic farce, going to last?"

The bombardment of Almeria has raised everywhere in the working class movement the demand for the cessation of the hypocrisy of non-intervention.



July 1936.



July 1937.

**"NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC" ON
ITALIAN FINANCES**

The National Geographic Magazine, in its latest number, publishes startling revelations concerning the critical financial situation in Italy and the low standard of living among the people.

It declares that the fascist government of Il Duce, in spite of the various revenues from the railroads, postal service, telegraph, industries, monopolies, and the taxation levied on the population, finds itself always in a greater deficit.

The story goes on to tell of the great expense the railroads have been to the government, each year leaving a more grave deficit than the preceding one. It attributes this to the fact that the general population of Italy cannot travel, they can't afford to. The only people who use the railroads are the foreign tourists. The Italian is too poor to travel, and his standard of living is becoming even lower.

The account mentions a form of taxation that compels a special tax on every window and balcony that faces the street. And, there is a tax on every basket of farm products purchased at the market.

"BILLY'S " MASS BACKING

At one time, years back, William Green, was President of the Morgan Run Local of the U. M. W. of A., in his home town, Coshocton, Ohio. The Local faded away for awhile but held its charter. Not long ago the Local was revived when John L. Lewis asked Billy to show cause as to why he shouldn't be expelled from the U. M. W. The Local haughtily boasted to the world that out of the twelve remaining members, only one, President J. R. McCormick, would vote to expel Bill.

Where are the "slanderers" who say that Bill Green has no mass support?

500 HOUSTON WORKERS DEMONSTRATE FOR RELIEF

HOUSTON, Texas.—More than 500 workers and citizens gathered before the City Hall recently in a mass demonstration against the proposed cut in the Federal appropriation for WPA and the resulting layoff of unemployed workers.

**COMRADE LITVINOV EXPOSES THE
NEW TECHNIQUE OF FASCIST
IMPERIALISM**

"... But it is not a matter of Spain alone. The Spanish events have created one of the greatest menaces to European and universal peace. This menace arises in consequence of an attempt at armed interference in the internal affairs of a European state, an attempt to force upon the people of this state an internal regime which is alien to it, and mainly, a foreign policy orientation, and under cover of this interference to deprive this country of its independence and subordinate it to other states. If these attempts were to be successful and were to be carried out with impunity, then there would be no guarantee that in a short time another attempt will not be made to bring about an insurrection in

some other country, to recognize the leader of the insurgents as head of the government, to send thither foreign troops and arms to help the insurgents and thus effect aggression and carry out the national policy of the intervening state. Intervention displays a tendency, according to the example of the religious wars of the past, to begin a series of new wars and, under cover of ideologies and political regimes, to carry out the policy of aggression and expansion. It should not be forgotten that in Spain, at the moment when the insurrection broke out, a government was in existence whose program was similar to that of governments existing in many other countries."

(Litvinov at Geneva.)

ALVAREZ DEL VAYO

Spain's champion at Geneva exposes fascist plan for world war.

**WHOLE TOWN FIGHTS
BOOST IN PONTIAC**

DETROIT, Mich.—"Everything points to Pontiac for 1937", says a General Motors' billboard on the town. That's more literally true for landlord victims throughout the country than was originally intended.

Pontiac is today the seat of the biggest rent strike in history. At least 15,000 families are backing up the call of the Pontiac local of the United Auto Workers to pay no rents before sizeable reductions are made.

In a town with a total population of 75,000 a rent strike of 15,00 families means that it's just about as unanimous as anything could be.

One typical Pontiac landlord admits that he "tried to step up rents gradually as they (auto workers) were able to pay". He thought, possibly, that the auto workers were fighting for higher wages for his sake. He goes on to threaten that "rents must be even higher than they were before if capital is to be advanced for more accommodations".

But the workers say that rents will come down before any more of their hard-won dough is advanced for outrageous rents.

In eviction or garnishment cases, the union intends to leave it to the jury to give a judgment in the amount it thinks is a proper rental.

NOTE

In a certain number of copies of last week's number a whole line was left out, because of a technical error.

A sentence in the article on British Imperialism should have read:

"...the British Government began to look longingly at the apparent fascist solution and to think that Democracy was dangerous. Democracy began to like Communism."

read instead:

"...the British Government began to look longingly at the apparent fascist solution and to look like Communism."

THE SOVIET UNION AND THE THIRD 5 YEAR PLAN

Because the 2nd 5 year Plan is being completed ahead of time the Soviet Government has invited the State Commission to speed up the elaboration of the 3rd 5 year Plan. Vast projects are already being studied, so that the 3rd 5 Year Plan will surpass in achievement its predecessors. The most interesting of all the proposals is that which is being called "The Grand Volga".

THE LARGEST HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME EVER

Between the frozen marshes of the north and the Caspian Sea lie enormous plains of rich soil which might support vastly increased and happy populations. Unfortunately, the rainfall is low, especially in the south, and the waters of the Volga are not as yet properly used for irrigation. A grandiose series of dams is to be built, solving two problems at once, that of irrigation, and the problem of electrical energy.

Dams, between 65 and 100 feet high are to be built at strategically chosen places, enabling a reservoir of water between 300 and 375 miles long to be stored behind each. These will be built at intervals of three hundred to 375 miles therefore, so that the Volga shall be navigable throughout to ships of deeper draft than at present. The same will be done with the great tributary of the Kama.

A VAST NETWORK OF POWER

The stupendous nature of this project can be seen from the fact that it will attain a total power output of ten million kilowatts supplying 50,000 million kwh per year, the equivalent of about 25 million tons of Donetz Basin coal or 60 to 70 million tons of the less useful local fuel.

As Soviet technique permits of the carrying of electrical power to distances of 625 miles this means that according to the Grand Volga Plan the area to be served is nearly a million square miles, containing 70 millions population. The industrial significance of this is evident. It is the regions of Moscow and the Ural Mountains on the northerly part of the Volga Basin which will use up the greatest quantity of electrical energy.

At present over 50 per cent of the fuel used in these regions is derived from distance sources. Saving of transport, as well as speeding up production, will be the gain therefore.

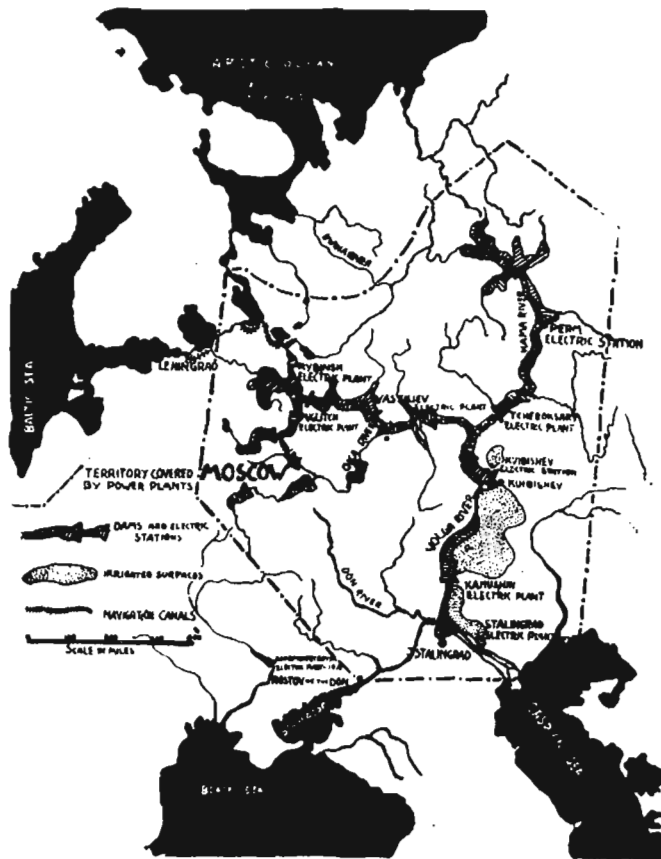
Not less important are the agricultural aspects of the Grand Volga Plan. The southern Volga plains are particularly arid, and at present constitute a peril for Soviet economy, in that their crops cannot be relied upon. After Grand Volga Plan is carried through millions of acres will be watered, ensuring rich and regular crops of wheat.

Industry and agriculture are provided for by this scheme. River communications also are to be cared for, finally, the depths maintained are to be sufficient to allow the passage of warships from the Caspian to the Baltic and the White Seas.

The same plan which will create wealth for the Soviet people will enable them to defend it against whatever fascist or capitalist power is foolish enough to try a fall with the U. S. S. R.

This, then, is what a Peoples' Government can do when it has beaten back its enemies, and con-

sent utterly waterless. For instance, in the Ebro Basin alone there are 900,000 acres which could be watered if electrical stations were built and canals constructed. In the Central Region, even with the limited water of the Tagus a quarter of a million acres are unnecessarily lying dry. The Republic had begun this work. Victory then, will mean that the work can go forward again, and with increased energy, because of the revitalizing of economic life which the democratic revolution will have accomplished.



This map will show the vast extent of the Grand Volga scheme.

MAN NOW HAS POWER TO ALTER NATURE

In fact, so much water will be used that there is a danger of lowering the level of the Caspian Sea! Military and navigational reasons and the interests of the fishing industry make it essential that this should be corrected by pouring into the Volga water from the adjacent river basins.

solidated itself. The Spanish Republic had already planned great irrigation work before Franco's revolt. The need for irrigation is not less acute in Spain than in the Soviet Union. The green floor of the Tajuna Valley contrast sharply, for example, with the grey green slopes above it towards Chinchon. Enormous level areas of Spain are composed of this grey-green 'pardo' earth, at pre-

27 ARE INJURED

AS JERSEY POLICE

ATTACK PICKETS

LITTLE FALLS, N. J. — This small industrial town had its echo of Dearborn and South Chicago when police attacked a picket line at the Little Falls laundry.

Twenty-seven were injured as clubs, tear gas bombs and other weapons were used freely by State Police. Firemen directed streams of water at the pickets from rooftops.

500 MILLION RUBLES FOR ART, THEATER AND MUSIC

More than 500 million rubles have been appropriated this year by the Soviet Government for theater and cinema construction, organization and upkeep of orchestras and choruses, expenditure on art schools, and so on.

The U. S. S. R. will have 813 theaters by January 1933, as against 775 at the beginning of this year. Large theaters are to be opened at Novo-Sibirsk, Smolensk, Ivanovo and Kirov, while the new premises of the Meyerhold Theater at Moscow will be completed.

The total number of students attending art colleges (music, drama, pictorial and plastic art and similar institutions) this year is ten thousand. Over 40,000 pupils are studying in the corresponding secondary schools. As compared with 1926, the number of art students has increased by 30% in the current year.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. I - N.° 6

Madrid, June 29 - 1937

LABOR SHOCK BRIGADES IN MADRID

When the Spanish War of Independence is over and everything is said about what is happening in Spain today, the movement for rationalization in war production will supply more than one chapter in the history of war.

This movement, called Stakanovism now, started when the workers and the petty bourgeoisie of Spain realized that the military revolt could not be crushed with a few blows, but that behind the Spanish feudal and military caste were the resources of the two principal fascist countries, Italy and Germany.

Madrid is not and never has been an industrial city. Its proletariat is made up of craftsmen, store, hotel and restaurant employees or of civil servants who never had any industrial training. Yet Madrid was the main goal of the fascist bands and required more war material than any other front. The rail communications with the coast were cut, the remaining highways congested, the city was suffering from lack of food and the army of defenders insufficiently supplied with war equipment and ammunitions.

The situation, while perhaps not desperate, was acute. The activities of the Non-Intervention Control Commission, which did not in the least interfere with the supply of men and war material to the fascists, certainly was the last blow to the small trickle of equipment brought into Spain from outside.

A MILITIA COMMANDER'S INITIATIVE

It was in this emergency that a number of workers, petty-bourgeois and professional people, formed, without any help from the Government or anyone else, the first group of workers which were to become the chief influence in injecting life, system and efficiency into the production of war

emergency, were producing without putting that energy in their work which is all important for superior production, were insufficient to supply even ordinary rifle cartridges to the central sector. Machinery was lacking. Toledo, with its recently modernized arms factories, fully supplied with up to date American machinery, was lost to the fascists.

materials were scarce and already in possession of shops in going condition. The job consisted in establishing, without means, without wages, without materials, buildings or machinery, factories capable of producing the sinews of war.

PERSONAL SACRIFICES

Those in the group who had any savings brought their funds. These were necessarily petty bourgeois. They brought more than their savings. They brought an enthusiasm and willingness to work which was in no way inferior to that of the peasants or workers in the group. Regardless of the position they occupied in the social or economic life of the city before the military revolt, they set about to learn, to strive and work.

The war zone became their supply base. They went where trenches were being dug, in some cases in no man's land, under the enemy's fire taking machines from destroyed factories, besides supplies in metals either in bars or ingots, and even scrap. They took anything which might be of any use. They had no truck, and for weeks they hitch-hiked with their booty from whichever front they were towards Madrid, the proud bearers of a bar of steel or brass, of a piece of machinery, later to be set up and made to work.

The government or the army could not spare a truck for them and they were not out to create difficulties for the authorities, but to help, to help at all costs.

Their courage and energy inspi-



Every member of the Stakanovite movement is pledged to undergo military training. And this is undertaken after work hours.

material in Madrid and, through their example in all Spain.

To Garcia Izquierdo, Commander of "Milicianos" at Arena de San Pedro on the Sierra Guadarrama, goes the credit for taking the initiative of this movement.

The few small factories in the Madrid section, manned by workers, who, in spite of the great

It was then that Garcia Izquierdo left the Sierra for Madrid. With a group of 60 men among which were waiters, jewelers, teachers of mathematics, engineers and laborers, along with some qualified machinists, he set about organizing new shops and encouraging others already established.

Machinery was lacking. Mate-

red soldiers in the front lines to give help and soon the little shop in calle Goya, which was the cradle of the movement became too small and they moved to a large, modern and comfortable building.

Small abandoned factories, ga-

new stimulus, with the full understanding of the great emergency facing them and all loyal Spain, the workers had started production against all odds, without materials or any wages.

In the great confusion caused

gade increases also, their example becomes an inspiration and wherever their fame is known emulation starts. It is a long way from the broken down Chevrolet truck to their present daily record of 300 truckloads, Madrid is being fed chiefly through the agency of this Brigade. It is since the Brigade took the job over that the food shortage became less acute.

The growth of the Brigade, which in a way repeats the feat of the Fifth Regiment which grew into a major size army without changing name until its incorporation in the Spanish Government's Army, is strictly under control and every means are used to

gade is a closed political affair. Frankly organized by Communists, the initiators, Garcia Izquierdo more so than any other, are proud of the fact that elements considered uncontrollable before, have joined, become enthused by the general atmosphere and are proving to be workers equal to any others.

The building the Brigade moved into after they vacated the shop in Calle Goya is no longer a shop. It is now an administrative building, a printing plant, clinic and hospital for the Brigade. Clean, well run, the building is undergoing big changes. On the lower floor showers and bath tubs are being installed. Two libraries have been installed and organized, one for literary works another for technical and scientific books. Artists are busy decorating the walls. The dining room, cheery, light, spotlessly clean has the walls decorated with frescoes. A large mural painting is being prepared in the office of the Commander. The man in charge, an artist of renown but utterly at a loss with himself and with the rest of the world before the war, is directing all the work of decoration. He proudly announced that Stakanovism has entered the field of art. A portrait of Stalin in tempera and about 10 feet by eighteen, well executed, expressive, workmanlike was finished in one hour and half. The rest of the time, says Dehesa de Mena the artist, would have been spent in smog-



rages which had been vacated after being destroyed by bombardment were taken over, repaired and production organized. The transport corps of the Stakanov Brigade, as the group became known later on when it grew to real brigade size, was started with the capture of a small Chevrolet truck taken from the fascists at the Casa de Campo last November, brought to Madrid in tow, repaired and put in circulation. This truck is still in operation and is quite famous in Madrid.

AN EXAMPLE OF REAL SHOCK TACTICS

A few miles from the city, at the edge of a little town, and using a large cow shed properly repaired, cleaned and ventilated as a beginning for a factory that was to prove too small even before production had quite begun, production of rifle cartridges was started.

In Toledo two small factories employing 60 men, but with excellent automatic machinery were producing 75,000 cartridges a day. After the loss of Toledo, Garcia Izquierdo immediately started the production of the same type of cartridges in Madrid. Machinery was built, since hardly any was in existence before. It was necessarily of hurried manufacture and of a makeshift style. With non automatic machinery the normal daily production per man was of about 800 cartridges. Under the



Stakanovite workers show real interest in technical perfection.

by the invasion with resultant waves of refugees entering the city, of breakdown of public services due to constant aerial bombardments, with the transfer of the Government seat to Valencia, while they were not even receiving any pay they increased their production to such a point that before long the same number of men working with primitive machinery WERE PRODUCING MORE THAN THE TOLEDO FACTORIES HAD BEEN TURNING OUT. The daily production per man rose to such a point that one man reached a record of 4016 cartridges in one day. 60 men were now producing in Madrid over 80,000 cartridges daily.

FROM SMALL BEGINNING TO MASS MOVEMENT

There are now 3,000 men in the Stakanov Brigade, and their number is increasing. As the number increases the activity of the Bri-

keep out possible disruptors, saboteurs and spies.

New members are accepted upon recommendation of their respective Unions or political organizations. Occasionally they are accepted on recommendation of friends already in the Brigade. Their political and social past is closely scrutinized, their physical condition is examined and they are then classified by trades or aptitudes. New members are under an unobtrusive but efficient vigilance. According to work performed and reports made they are encouraged, advanced in grade or responsibility, or dismissed, and when charges warrant it, handed over to the police for further action.

A REAL POPULAR FRONT EFFORT

In spite of all those precautions one should not think that the Bri-





Several military clothing factories are run by Stakanovite women.

king cigarettes and talking. A number of young people are working under him and so quite naturally the Brigade has also an art school. The school is taking orders from Barracks, labor organizations, schools, hospitals for decorating their buildings.

On a table is a volume of Capital, bound in calf leather, beautifully tooled, in a style and technique equal to the very best leather work done by old craftsmen. On the work bench other pieces of leather are being tooled, carefully and by a worker who feels affection for his trade and for his product. There is also a school of short hand, a fully equipped printing shop. And all this with materials reclaimed from the destruction of war!

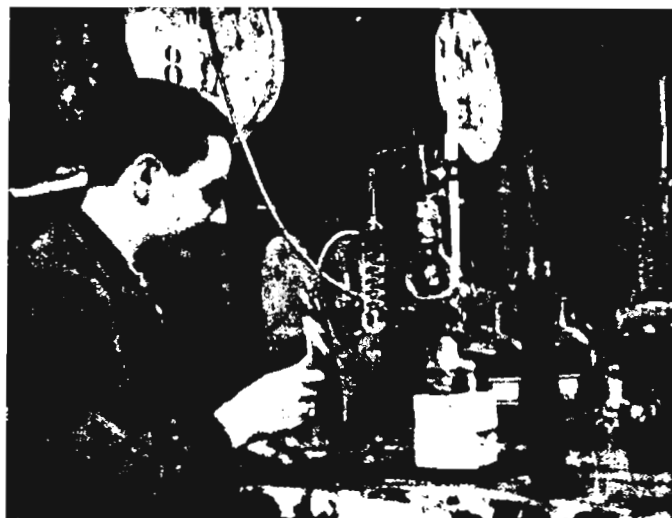
It may seem strange that undertakings of this type should be started at a time of stress like this. But the work of the Stakanov Brigade while supplying all it can to the fight against fascism, is also an institution which, by the force of events, is laying the basis of the reconstruction of Spain.

THE MOVEMENT IS STILL GROWING

The number of shops belonging to the Brigade is already large, the activities are many and they range from automobile repairing to body building, foundry and what we may call other undertakings cannot be mentioned now.

The workers are pledged to work eight hours daily but they voluntarily work several hours more. The average is above 10.

Regardless of urgency of work, at 11.30 all work stops and the men go to the class room in the building where the most varied engineering courses are given by competent teachers, themselves members of the Brigade. These courses last two hours daily after which 2 more hours are taken for meals and rest. A corps of mechanical engineers is therefore being built in the midst of a raging war against powerful invaders. Classes in aeronautics have also been started. New chemical



Stakanovite chemist at work

laboratories are being built. Everywhere the visitor notices a feeling of pride, the certainty of victory ahead, and sees a new society being born and in a measure already functioning.

It was only after February 19th that the Brigade became officially incorporated in the Spanish Army and wages began to be paid. It is only since the Brigade began to receive pay from the government that their food started to come from the quartermasters warehouses. Before then the war zone was not only their material supply base but also their "Intendencia". Not profit, not stripes, not wages were the incentive to work for them, but the will to win and to create a New Spain. That spirit is inspiring now other factories. And that is the best guarantee of victory.

C. I. O. BLANKS A. F. L.

COUNCIL AT UNION

CONVENTIONS, 4-0

Definite steps toward affiliation with the Committee for Industrial Organization were taken by the convention of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific in Portland, Ore.

Harry Bridges, popular leader of the longshoremen, presented the convention with a proposal for a referendum on C. I. O. affiliation. His speech and that of John Brophy, C. I. O. director, were greeted enthusiastically by the delegates.

smashing of union halls—that's what the strikers are going through", David said. "Subsidiaries of the Ford motor company on much of the timber land of northern Michigan and the other companies are borrowing a page from their master. The murder of the striking lumberjacks at Newberry was Fordism carried to its logical conclusions".



Apartment houses for collective farm workers in the Kirov Collective farm.

CLUBS, TEAR GAS RULE MONROE, MICH., AFTER ATTACK ON STRIKERS

MONROE, Mich., June 11.—The mayor and city commission of Monroe, scene of one of the bitterest clashes of the steel strike, transmitted to Governor Frank Murphy tonight a formal demand that the state militia be called out.

A resolution adopted unanimously declared "local feeling is intense and danger of bloodshed imminent".

It demanded the troops be sent here on or before Sunday.

That is the date set for a mass meeting by the C. I. O. to protest last night's teargassing of strike pickets.

The protest meeting was called by President Homer Martin of the United Automobile Workers. He asked every local union in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana to send delegates.

PONTIAC, Mich. — Down in Pontiac the 15,000 rent strikers are holding firm. "Don't let 'em kid you", says Odin Johnson, ex-auto worker and now attorney for the UAW there. "They're not paying rent. Our rent office is swamped with landlords coming in to complain".

LUMBERJACKS SEEK AID TO CHOP DOWN FORDISM

DETROIT, Mich.—"The Michigan lumberjacks are getting their share of Fordism!"

"Murder, beatings, and the

THE CATALAN PEASANT-FARMER AND COLLECTIVISATION

As the Catalan land problem differs somewhat from that of the rest of Spain we have asked a Catalan agrarian expert to contribute the following article.

When the democratic revolution smashed the rebellion of the fascists in Catalonia the peasants received the land and so ended the centuries old struggle of the peasants against those who prevented them from enjoying the fruits of their labour. What solution has there been up to now to this vital problem in Catalonia?

The problems of enormous estates such as existed in Extremadura, Castile and Andalucia did not exist. There was no dividing up of enormous landed properties in Catalonia. Approximately 80% of Catalan agriculture was confined to rented farms of major or minor importance. Most of them consisted of farms of twelve or thirteen acres. Only in the north of the provinces of Lerida and Gerona were there estates of 75, 100 or 125 acres.

The reason for this development is explained by the fact that Catalan agriculture requires an intensive cultivation of the soil, which has necessitated the apportioning of land without modifying the conditions of property. 82% of the total surface of Catalonia is used for agriculture, meadow land, pasture and forest. Of this area 3,522,387 acres are pasture, mountain and wood, 369,413 acres are uncultivable, while 2,768,613 acres are cultivated. Only a third part of the surface is used for cereals. It is interesting to note how the cultivation is divided up.

Of the total surface devoted to agriculture:

	%
Cereals	33.59
Vineyards	23.04
Olives	19.67
Market Garden produce...	2.97
Root vegetables.....	5.61
Plants used in industry...	.17
Kitchen gardens.....	1.74
Orchards	8.07
Artificial meadows, forage	5.15

There are 200,000 families who work the land in Catalonia. Formerly their conditions were particularly hard and disclosed relics of the feudal system, as for instance, in the "Rabassa morta", a clause by which the land returned to the owner without indemnification when through any type

slogans of the P. O. U. M., which is interested in destroying the union between the workers and peasants, they attempted to carry out forced collectivisation.

The United Socialist Party, the Esquerra, Rabassaires Union, the Estat Catalá and the U. G. T. are firmly opposed to this. By



The union of the two International makes the diplomats sit up.

of difficulty, like phylloxera for example, the farmer was unable to deliver a certain proportion of the crop. Innumerable farmers were driven from their farms by laws such as this. Frequently as much as half the harvest had to be delivered to the landowner.

The principal abuse was therefore wiped out with the abolition of the absentee landowner. Since July 18th the land has belonged to the man who works it.

Because there existed few great landlords the problem of expropriation had little importance in Catalonia. According to the decree of the Republican Government only those landlords who took direct or indirect part in the fascist rebellion were expropriated. The Popular Front Government has given the land to the peasants. There as far as the peasants were concerned the revolution ended in Catalonia, and now the State helps the peasants by every means in its power to obtain the best results of its labour. To some extremists this did not appear enough, and incited by the

Government decree all forced collectivisation was rigorously forbidden. There is an agreement between the United Socialist Party, the U. G. T., the F. A. I. and C. N. T., formally confirmed on Oct. 21, that the peasant has the right to cultivate the earth in a family regime and that forced collectivisations are inadmissible.

Why did the Government of Catalonia take this position? The Catalan peasant must work all his life for a property and in the end possesses the coveted earth, and does not wish in any way to lose it. This wish is easy to understand. Those who took part in the struggle against the fascist rebellion and who are now faithful to the Republic are to be respected. At present agriculture must be developed for the benefit of the country and so that the front may be supplied with food. It is unfortunately not possible to supply it with sufficient machinery because the factories have to make war materials. Complete collectivisation would therefore not be easy.

In the PLAN OF VICTORY the PSU and the UGT proposed the following to the Government as an agricultural policy:

"A just policy in the countryside. A guarantee for the peasants to cultivate the land individually or collectively as they wish. The level of production to be raised by means of credits and directed to the necessities of the war. The transactions to be regulated by co-operatives and the organisation of outside markets on a basis of agreements between the Governments of the Generality and the Republic."

A large number of the peasants agree with this policy, as is seen by their organisation. More than 100,000 families are in the Union of Rabassaires, the Catalan peasant party, whose principles are in accordance with the PSUC and the UGT. Another 60,000 peasants are organised in the Federation of Land Workers (UGT).

The experiments in collectivisation realised up to now, and chiefly those made in the July days of 1936 confirm the policy exposed above. Up to now the Government has registered 66 collectives. This figure does not represent the total, but are based on the replies received. A part of these represent land taken from fascists to be cultivated by peasants in common. This initiative of the peasants must be protected. On the other hand some collectivisations have shown themselves incapable of lasting and were treated as premature attempts.

A great step forward was taken when all farmers were required by law to belong to one or other of the syndicates and so come directly under the Ministry of Agriculture in the Government. These agricultural syndicates grant credits authorised by the Government, arrange transactions, and deal with insurance against bad harvests etc.

To sum up in a single sentence: The Republic of the Popular Front has opened the road for the land workers to a fine and promising future.

THE BANKERS ATTACK THE POPULAR FRONT

The following time table may help comrades to understand the causes of the Blum's Government resignation.

Ever since the Popular Government has been in office it has

the first of a series of **exit** debates on the finance plan. The financial Commission of the Chamber of Deputies listened to Léon Blum's outline and finally proposed an amendment limiting the

Government, which thereupon obtained a vote of 346 against 247.

THE CAPITALIST LINE UP THEIR FORCES

The same day (June 16) Comrades Thorez and Duclos of the Communist Party had an interview with Blum. As the latter stated that his financial plan would mean fresh burden on the working class such as increase of railway fares, tobacco and postage, the Communist Party delegates as well as the C. P. Deputies expressed their disapproval but declared they would not break Popular Front.

That night the Chamber of Deputies voted a general resolution containing these provisions; the Government should maintain the franc at the parity fixed by the law of the 1st of October 1936 and it should avoid governmental control of the rate of exchange. It should have power to take all ne-

things the Government proposed that it would introduce legislation to control speculation in banks and to repress tax frauds.

On June 19 the French rejected Blum's proposals and by majority ordered its own financial Commis-



The Paris Bourse whence attacks on Popular Front are launched.

been periodically confronted by financial crisis engineered by the 200 families and the Bank of France. These crisis have had for object a damaging of the Government's credit, the diminishing of its income, the creation of general financial difficulties through the export of capital, etc. In order to combat this, the Blum's Government had to demand from the Chamber of deputies and the French senate full powers to introduce new financial measures.

On June the 15th there was

Government's powers to the present session or at the latest until July 23. This was accepted by Prime Minister Blum with the result that the of the finance Commission declared itself in favor of granting powers to the Government by majority of 22 to 16. The two most important speeches were those of Monsieur Auriol (Socialist Party Minister of Finances) and of Léon Blum. Monsieur Auriol said that the present financial attack followed the same lines and came from the same quarters as those of 1924, 1926 and 1935. He declared that recently over 50,000 millions of francs had gone abroad and he demanded powers to defeat this attempt to panic people and to put an end to tax frauds. The Prime Minister declared that the capitalist object was to break up the Popular Front and to recover on the economic and financial field what it had lost on the political. He said that capital was created by the workers and had no right to strike against them. The debate went on all night until the entry of the Communist Deputies at 4.50 a. m. who demanded a suspension of the debate. The House was adjourned and at 6.15 the Communist Party announced that it would support the



Léon Blum.



The Chamber of Deputies.



Jacques Duclos, leading Communist, deputy in France.

sion to draw up a plan which was finally accepted by the Senate with a vote of 198 against 82.

A detailed analysis of the Senate's proposals is not possible here because of the technicality, nevertheless as Blum declared they were aimed at a complete paralysation of the Popular Front Government. On the 21st Blum announced the resignation of its Government in the Chamber of Deputies.

Monsieur Chautemps was then invited to found a new Government and eventually succeeded giving eleven ministers to radicals and nine to Socialists.

WHY DID THE SENATE BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT?

The connection between this event and the meeting of the two Workers International is so close in point of time that the Senate's opposition is quite clearly the capitalist counter-attack to the movement towards proletarian solidarity. At the same time we must point out that as result of Blum resignation the French Government no longer has a majority of ministers controlled by the Second International.

cessary measures to secure public finances and to protect savings and public credit, without proceeding to obligatory conversions of national loans.

The following practical measures were then decided upon: the steepening of taxes on incomes above 60,000 franc's broadening of tax basis, and increased railway fares, wireless less dues, gas and electricity prices. Amongst other

NEWS IN BRIEF

June 18.—The Belgian Workers Party (Second International) bluntly rejects meeting with Belgian Communist Party on Spanish issue, and orders socialists to withdraw from all existent co-ordination committees.

June 19.—In the possession of a French arms dealer belonging to De La Roque's Fascist Party, arrested for arms smuggling, were found documents showing that a deal was planned involving twentytwo tanks, twenty chaser planes, 12,000 machine guns, 20,000 submachine guns and 200,000 rifles.

June 22.—Soviet aviators achieved non-stop flight from Moscow-Vancouver by the North Pole.

June 21.—De Brouckère announces his forthcoming resignation from the direction of the Second International.

June 23.—Barcelona police continue arrests of introllables and Trotskytes, detaining "tipos" who



Introllables keep step with government forces.

recently tried to assault various departments of the Military School.

June 24.—Spanish Socialist Party and Communist Party make fresh appeal to Second and Third Internationals for immediate help, the same day the Second International and the I. F. T. U., declare Non-Intervention must be brought to an end.

June 26.—The Catalan Government resigns. New Government is expected to be formed on Monday.

June 26.—The Spanish Government replies to Eden's note of the 16 th., in effect rejecting Four Power Pact's demands unless accompanied by guarantees on sa-

fety of Spanish ships ports and cities from attack by German and Italian warships, and assurances that fascist fleets will not continue to help Franco.

June 21.—British and French Government announce they will continue Control without Germany and Italy.

June 27.—The South Wales Miners Federation in Congress at Cardiff demands a change of policy towards Spain, in line with that recently outlined by the Socialist and Trade Union Internationals. The Congress called on the U. T. C. for an all union conference to mobilise all elements for this work.

June 27.—In a discourse on his so-called Four Years Plan addressed to 80,000 Assault troops at Wurzburg. Hitler said bluntly "Germany needs to import iron ore. For this reason we desire a Nationalist Government in Spain, in order that we may acquire Spanish iron ore". This statement and the general tone of fierce hostility to England, was much commented on by conservative newspaper in London.

June 28.—It is understood in well informed political circles that De Brouckère's And Adler's resignation from the Second International was due to Labour Party and Belgian Socialist condemnation of the unity proposals between the two Internationals.

June 28.—The Executive Committee of the Second International refuses to accept the resignation of De Brouckère, president; Adler, secretary and Rousdroff, who have been severely criticised by the British Labor Party and the Belgian Socialist Party for agreeing to meet the 3d International.

The Executive Committee said that their resignation would compromise the success of actions be taken.

June 28.—The Danish Government has prohibited the building of two ships intended for war use which the Spanish rebels had

commissioned from a Danish ship-builder. Franco loses his deposit.

June 28.—Pierre Cot, French Minister of air has sent the following telegram to the Soviet Government:

"I beg you to give my warm



Louis De Brouckère.

congratulations to the aviators Chekaloff, Baidukoff and Belia-koff for their admirable Moscow-Vancouver flight, which has demonstrated the high quality of the material employed and the masterly skill of the crew which has carried out the flight." No doubt other Governments, less friendly to the Soviet Union have noticed the "high quality of the material and masterly skill".

June 28. At half past nine at night was published a list of new ministers of the Catalan Government. It is as follows:

Primer minister, Luis Companys (President of the Catalan Republic).

Commerce and Treasury, Juan Taradellas, Esquerra (Catalan Left).

Home office and Dept. of State, Antonio Maria Sbert, Esquerra.

Culture, Pi i Suner, Esquerra (Mayor of Barcelona).

Health, Vidal, C. N. T.

Public Services, García Oliver, C. N. T. (Formerly Minister in the Largo Caballero Govt.)

Economy, Jose Izglea, C. N. T.

Supplies, Miguel Serra Paniel, United Socialist Party (Affiliated 3d International).

Justice, Rafael Vidiella, United Socialist Party.

Labour and Public Works, Juan Comorera, United Socialist Party (of which he is the leader).

Agriculture, Jose Calvet, Rabassaires Union.

Minister without portfolio, Pedro Bosh Gimpera, Independent.

It is noteworthy that the C. N. T. is thus co-operating in a government similar to the Valencia Govt., also that the United Socialist Party members, are now entering as such, whereas before they were called U. G. T. members. The Economic posts are distributed, one to the Esquerra, one to the Rabassaires (Share-croppers), which accept the United Socialist Party policy for the land, and one to the C. N. T. Note also that the Ministry of War has been abolished, this Department coming under the Valencia Government.



Frederick Adler.

Munitions for the «New Artillery»

Propaganda in the enemy's ranks is being intensified daily thanks to good work on the part of comrades. The number of workers in the fascist army who have already passed over to our lines is already to be numbered in thousands.

The victory of Guadalajara was the occasion of a mass influx into our ranks of Italian workers and this experience has already borne its fruits. The knowledge of their work acquired by the Garibaldi Battalion has been of service to the comrades of other brigades.

The possibilities of work among the enemy are greater today than ever, not only we have made serious breaches in the fascist "propaganda front" but also because considerable demoralization exists on their side. The fact that the heroic forces of Bilbao were not able any longer to maintain their resistance to the Italian and German hordes with their massed tanks and aeroplanes and their overwhelming mechanical force as well as to the hardships caused by the blockade, does not alter the fact that we are at present preparing a victorious offensive. It is clear that in such conditions our chances of persuading enemy soldiers to pass over to our ranks are very much greater.

SERIOUS THOUGHT MUST BE GIVEN TO THIS WORK

It is not sufficient merely to provide oneself with a loudspeaker, however modern, and make any sort of noise, nor to rain leaflets on the enemy's heads. It is necessary to know to whom one is speaking. Effort must be made to know what language they speak, whether they are workers or peasants, national characteristics and conditions, both political and social. It is necessary to observe their habits and how their day is employed, and every detail which may indicate the state of morale among them. Above all it is necessary not to shout insults at the enemy, even under provocation.

The content and text of the leaflet should be the work, not only of the Propaganda Commission

and the Political Commissar but of the whole of the comrades. Each one should make his contribution, however small it may be. We must remember that along a front hundreds of miles long there are before us many fascist soldiers whose constant thought is how to escape. If our words are sensitive enough to touch their most intimate thoughts, if through

this work. The most persuasive words have no effect if they are heard imperfectly, the most carefully written argument loses weight if the leaflet is poorly produced. We must not be content, in this modern war, with primitive equipment.

In the technical field we already possess a certain number of loudspeakers, but it is necessary

and persistently carried out. POLITICAL COMMISSARS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS ONE OF THEIR MOST ESSENTIAL DUTIES.

THE MORAL EFFECTS OF THIS WORK

The better we do this during the preparatory period the more easy and effective the offensive will become. And victory will be correspondingly quicker and greater.

In many military units commanders, commissars and men alike have opened subscriptions for the purchase of loudspeakers and other technical apparatus. General Miaja for instance, has given 5,000 pesetas. Funds are being collected by trade unions, political parties and popular organizations throughout Loyal Spain. We do not doubt that the comrades of our International Brigades will also help.

Comrades are invited to write in concerning their experiences in this work, not only in the preparation and delivery of propaganda but on technical matters also, for publication in the VOLUNTEER.

To the job then comrades. This "New Artillery" is one of the best pieces of armament in the People's Army.



The knowledge of their work acquired by the Garibaldi Battalion has been of service to the comrades of other brigades.

our words they recognize us as class brothers, our propaganda may give just that impulse which will make them decide to escape. The immediate danger of flight will seem less than that of remaining with an army which is heading for defeat.

CARE IN THE EXECUTION OF PROPAGANDA WORK

It is necessary also to take care of the technical aspects of

to bring all our means to perfection. The same thing applies to written propaganda. Soldiers have already passed over to us carrying one of our leaflets hidden beneath his clothes, sometimes indeed, wrapped around a religious emblem slung from the neck. Every possible means such as strong wind etc. must be utilised to distribute these leaflets to the enemy.

But the most important is that the work be properly organised

THE SOVIET UNION LOOKS TOWARDS BIGGER AND BETTER CHICKEN DINNERS

The poultry industry, an important branch of livestock economy will almost quadruple its number of breeding hens by 1942, according to figures obtained at the central office of the poultry department of the RSFSR. About 13,800,000 breeders on the nearly 23,000 poultry collective farms will help supply Soviet tables with chickens and eggs.

The plan calls for an increase of 47.5 million hatching eggs, raising the total number of eggs for hatching purposes to 80,000,000 by 1942.

Further more, the 345 incubator stations with incubators having a total capacity of 16 million eggs will be more than doubled by the end of the Third Five-Year Plan.

TELEGRAM SENT TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE AMERICAN COMRADES

The Abraham Lincoln, George Washington and Patrick Henry Battalions, the John Brown artillery battery and the American transport and mechanical squadrons to the people of the United States.
Independence day 1937.

We, Americans in Spain fighting for the preservation of world democracy, are proud to celebrate today the national festival of our American ideals on Spanish soil.

It was necessary for us to come here because governments have not done their duty to a great people, to whom American civilization owes much. The bounden duty of all governments, above all those animated by democratic ideals, was to grant to the Spanish Government its rights and thereby to have struck a decisive blow for Democracy. We, Americans in the International Brigades, know we have struck that blow. Many of our comrades have fallen. Many lie silent on these battlefields of Spain. We know that had all the democratic governments of the world done their duty, our comrades need not have died. Yet in their hearts, as in the heart of every true American, the rich blood of liberty flowed, giving life to their being. For this they came here.

On this July 4th we declare that we have sought not only to do our share to redress the omission of governments, but to defeat the purposes of those tyrants, alien to the Spanish race, who would enslave a free people. As La Fayette, citizen of France, urged by impulses which all American democrats will honor today, sailed from his own land and offered himself to the glorious founder of American Independence, Washington, so we have offered ourselves to the Spanish Government. Like La Fayette and his splendid company, we have been accepted with gratitude by the Spanish People. As La Fayette was given officer's rank by Washington so also our Commanders derive their authority from the President of the Spanish Republic. As La Fayette pursued

no private ends neither do we. As he sought only to aid the American People in their struggle against a foreign despotism so do we. And when the Spanish People have driven out the fascist invader we shall return to the land we love.

Fellow Americans, the first Battle of American Liberty was struck at Bunker Hill. It was a decisive battle. We of the Lincoln Battalion are proud that we have taken part in the glorious defense of Madrid, a defense that has thrilled all lovers of liberty throughout the world. We are proud because we know that the battles in which we have taken a part were decisive, that we have therefore sealed the most sacred of human bonds between the American and Spanish People. Upon a hill of the Jarama Front, among the vineyards and olive fields of Spain, many of our comrades will lie after we have gone from here. Upon this Fourth of July we mourn them, proudly, finding courage in their brave example. People of the United States to your feet in honor of our dead! of your dead at the gates of Madrid!

And remembering them, the Americans in Spain ask you to be on guard against the forces of fascism at present plotting against American Standards in our homeland. We read with joy of the great sweep of trade union organization among the workers of America. We greet the tremendous movement of progressive thought and action developing in the States. Let no reactionaries destroy our nation's hope of progress towards a better and juster society. Let us unite in our efforts to preserve democracy in Spain, in America and throughout the world.

Long live American and Spanish democracy!
Long live American and Spanish Independence!
Long live the Abraham Lincoln Battalion!
Long live the Peoples Front in all lands!

WHAT IS BEHIND THE GERMAN INTERVENTION? SOME REVEALING FIGURES

Spain produces annually: The German Government needs annually for armament (imports):

	Tons.	Tons.
Zinc	129,000	127,000
Manganese	80,000	225,000
Copper	381,000	325,000
Sulphate of Iron.....	1,600,000	987,000
Iron mineral.....	300,000	8,264,000

If to these figures we add the zinc of Vigo, the potash of Catalonia, the mercury of Almadén, Hitler's true motives are clear.

A FEW IMPORTANT THINGS ABOUT THE MAIL

We have given instruction as to how to use the mails both for the purpose of improving the service and also to keep our mail from becoming a source of information for the enemy.

We must insist on two chief points of extreme importance:

1- Have your correspondents address your mail according to instructions given you by the mail service.

2- Several comrades insist, in spite of several warnings to send informations of military character, while others have the irresponsible tendency to describe in detail how they arrived in Spain.

If the comrades would give a little thought to the effect that such correspondence might have they would write about other things.

AUTO LABOR GOING AHEAD FULL STEAM

DETROIT.—Labor in auto is just getting started in its forward march. It's going ahead full steam on a half dozen different fronts.

"General strike in Lansing. A mass protest demonstration of 75,000 marching workers in Flint. Rent strike of 15,000 still going strong in Pontiac. A mass protest demonstration at Henry Ford's front door in Dearborn. A mass movement against high rents launched in Detroit. National conference to present new demands to the huge General Motors Corporation at the expiration of the present agreement on Aug. 11th. Two great plants of the Ternstedt division of General Motors shut down with a sit-down strike of 13,000 workers, mostly women. A half dozen strikes in

smaller plants. And now a concerted movement by the UAW, the AFL and all progressive movements to put labor in the city hall in the coming city elections.



JOHN L. LEWIS



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. I - N. 7

Madrid, July 12 - 1937

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The existence of different opinions within the Directorship of the Second International, as well as the announcement of the resignation of its President and Secretary, in our judgement should not prevent the international organizations of the proletariat working by common agreement in an histo-

rical moment of such gravity, in which is concerned the liberty of the Spanish people and the maintenance of world peace. And the more so when we know that at the joint meeting of the Socialist International and the Trade Union International of the 26th of June the proposal of the Spanish comrades was accepted without reserve.

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SECOND. That the international working class organizations at the same time address themselves to the League of Nations to demand the fulfilment of the League of Nations Pact against the fascist aggressors who have attacked Republican Spain.

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The Army of the Centre which held back the Fascists at Las Rozas, Jarama and Guadalajara, the Army which made the words "No pasarán" a heroic reality, has launched the offensive, broken the enemy front, and has held and improved its positions against a fierce counter-attack.

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Comrade Antonio Mije calls for unification of Socialist and Communist Parties.

THE FOURTH IN MADRID

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Anna Louise Strong spoke over the Government Station E. A. R. to the United States.

We give here below some excerpts of her speech.

A few miles out of Madrid at the base which supplies transport to the forces around the city, several scores of American truck-drivers and mechanics began the celebration with a breakfast of ham and eggs. Ham... and eggs! I assure you that's a celebration in Madrid. Perhaps you will read of it in the Times tomorrow, for correspondents were there as guests. Later there was ice-cream and pop, and a speech on the meaning of Independence Day. Still later a base-ball game. But right in the middle of the game, with two men on bases and third at bat, the order came to ROLL... To get out the trucks for duty... So the base-ball game stopped while they did their bit in the war for Independence...

... In a village near Albacete several hundred Americans in training camp... I saw them celebrate last night... How they sang "Old Man River" and dozens of American songs mixed in with the Spanish "No Pasarán". Nearly a thousand Americans in the older battalions—the famous Lincoln, four months unrelieved in the front lines, and recently given a rest; and the newer George Washington... These celebrated more seriously, moving steadily up to face the foe. Seventy Americans in medical units, field hospitals, base hospitals...

...All of them know the meaning of Independence Day... They believe they know it better than the American Government knows it.

... Let me give you glimpses of

a few of these Americans in Spain. First a truck driver. Down in Alicante. He had a free Sunday, and it came during harvest, when hundreds of Spanish city people were volunteering their Sundays to help get in the crops. It is a

right to the land, and no landlords can prevent putting through useful irrigation works. In spite of the drain of war these peasants are better off than before!

... Wat are the chances of this battle. Let me mention a few



American Comrades in the reading room of the 1^o Regiment de Train.

bumper crop this year and the country-side is short handed, because so many farmer boys have gone to fight the invaders... so this American truck driver volunteered himself and the truck to carry workers of Alicante to the harvest fields.

Up, up they went, over the rough mountain roads for a couple of hours. "Till at last we came", he said, "to what seemed the rim of the world, and we came over the rim and there was a valley surrounded by mountains and in the valley seven villages. We dropped down to see one of them and the city folks organized in groups, with one old peasant to show each group. We cleaned up that field faster than it has ever been done before. Then at five o' clock we all stopped and went to a nearby village for a celebration. There they showed us a big reservoir which they were celebrating, newly built... It gave the valley better irrigation than they had ever had before. They had built it this year, right in war time... because now the people have the

things I note as I return after six months absence. I expected to find Spain exhausted by a year of warfare. I find instead that it is fuller of energy than a year ago. The Spaniards tell you they have just begun to fight: they are just getting properly prepared. And this is true... Six months ago they were confident of ultimate victory. Now they are more supremely confident. They are preparing for a war as long as may be needed to drive out all enemy invaders and their Spanish tools.

Economically the land is stronger also. Factories are working better, war supplies pour forth as they never did before... The farming of the country has increased its sown area by seven per cent and is reaping a bumper crop. The irrigation reservoir I mentioned is only one sample of public improvements being made right during the war... Education also is forging ahead even in war time, with 190 million pesetas more in this year's school budget than in last year.

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The coincidence of the "incident" with the latest developments in European diplomacy around the question of "Non intervention" is quite transparent.

July 2.—U. S. Ambassador to Moscow, Joseph Davis, visited the Japanese Ambassador Shigemitsu and expressed his personal wish that the incident would remain localised and without further consequences.

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Madrid, the grove of fascism

(Continued from page one)

The fight has been a hard one. The Fascists, as well as ourselves, realise how much is at stake and have resisted and counter-attacked desperately. Our soldiers have had to fight against the rebel shock-troops, and have taken positions which the enemy had fortified for months.

THE FOUNDATIONS OF VICTORY

The successes we have gained have only been possible because of the courage and morale of our soldiers. Some of our best comrades have fallen. The road our Army is travelling today is a difficult one, but it leads to great victories.

It is not an exaggeration to say

Thanks to Soviet diplomacy, which refuses to accept provocation, an incident quite evidently meant to create a major diplomatic disturbance, and perhaps war, ended in a complete victory for the Soviet Union. Coming at a moment of tension such as this, and on the heels of a recrudescence of provocations by Germany and Italy, this victory is of importance that cannot be exaggerated.

*

Lisbon 5.—According to the director of the Portuguese Radio Club in a radio speech to the nation, the Italo-German policy in Spain is not in agreement with

and had on board observers of the Control Commission.

Paris 5.—"Le Temps", French conservative paper, in an article entitled "An appeal to Reason" demands that both England and France demand the inviolability of the territorial rights of Spain and that Spain's interests in the Mediterranean be respected.

July 3.—The Manchukuo Soviet border incident is closed, with the exception of the request to Japan by Comrade Litvinof, for a payment of an indemnity for the losses suffered.

Martial Law Closes Plant in Johnstown

Harrisburg, PA.—Gov. George H. Earle announced tonight that solution of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation strike problem in Johnstown has been placed in the hands of President Roosevelt's steel mediation board. Earle announced also that martial law in Johnstown will not be lifted tonight or tomorrow although the steel corporation has complied with the Governor's orders to close its huge struck Cambria plant.

Bus Strike Ends With Five More Arrests

The strike of Liverpool busmen, which began on Saturday last against the speeding-up of time

schedules, ended this morning following a mass meeting of strikers, which lasted for four hours.

Through their strike committee the men were informed that negotiations would be opened on the men's complaints immediately a resumption of work took place. On this understanding the strikers voted by 188 to 119 in favour of a return to work today.

It is reported that while the Ribbles Motor Company is prepared to reinstate the strikers it is intended to fine each man 5s. for alleged breach of contract.

If this attitude is persisted in it will indicate that the company is approaching the question of negotiations in a very bad spirit and its actions will intensify bitterness not only among the Liverpool men, but at all centres of the Ribbles Services.

Children Make Archeological Find

A group of children playing in the yard of the school at Pyatnitsky village, near Tula, while digging in the ground discovered an iron gun weighing 70 kg. The gun dates from the beginning of the 17th century and it is presumed that it was captured from the Muscovite Tsar Vasil Shuisky by insurgent peasants and Cossacks. The find was turned over to the Tula Museum.



Straddling the trenches on the Spanish front, comrades of the 15th Brigade will recognise this.

that these few days may decide the future happiness of millions of people. But we can await the outcome with confidence.

The militia of the early days saved Spain. Now our new People's Army has proved that it can successfully undertake a large scale offensive. Our aviation, artillery and tanks have proved their worth. Our war material, the fighting spirit of our soldiers, the successful work of the Commissars, the ability of our military leaders, the intensification of work in the fields and factories, the growing unity behind the lines, the successes already gained by the Armies of Aragon and the South, and the possibilities which the Madrid offensive has given them — all these factors are the foundations of our victory.

With our People's Army, a government which is proving that it can lead us to success, and the strengthening of the unity of all Anti-Fascists in Spain, the way is being opened to the final decisive battles which will drive out the invader and inflict a smashing defeat on world Fascism.

Franco's view. Their assertiveness and large scale invasion has hurt the cause of Franco before what is now fascist Spain and the rest of Europe.

July 5.—The fascist pirate cruiser "Almirante Cervera" seized the French Steamship Company's freighter "Tregastel" off the Santander Coast.

The French coast guard boat "Vauquois" which had left immediately upon receiving the information for Santander returned to San Juan de Luz, after carrying out the order to scour the coast for the "Tregastel", with the information that the freighter was taken under guard of a rebel pirate ship into Bilbao harbor.

July 5.—The paper "L'Ami du Peuple" in an article commenting the seizure of the "Tregastel" states: The probabilities of peace depend on the energetic conduct of Paris and London.

"L'Humanité" says: For France to tolerate piratical actions by the rebels and their allies would be a monstrosity.

The "Tregastel" was en route to Santander to take on refugees



Comrades James Ford, Bob Minor, and Ralph Bates with the boys of the Regiment de Train.

A BUMPER CROP FOR 1937

Over 7,500 tons of seed 110 millions of pesetas, all kinds of technical help and advice, along with favorable weather are producing this year a bumper crop for Loyalist Spain.

The work of the Minister of Agriculture in helping the Spanish peasantry has been remarkable, and has succeeded in offsetting quite completely whatever harm forced collectivisation, "expropriation" and pro-fascist propaganda tried to accomplish.

In a country like Spain, where agriculture was left for centuries very much to the mercy of the weather, of God and of the large land-owners, to see the government actively helping and even stimulating better ways in agriculture is something which has found immediate response among the workers in the fields.

Speaking on the subject of collectivisation in agriculture, Vincente Uribe, Minister for Agriculture recently said: "War must be won on all fronts, and since we have not won it as yet, it is premature to attempt dangerous experiments. Until now we had to face violence and oppression by elements which we must call 'Incontrollables'. These elements were not numerous, but they roamed through the countryside robbing the peasants.

"The Communist Party, which I represent in the Cabinet, told the peasants that they had a right to their crop and advised the peasants to resist the forced seizure

by any means found convenient. The advice of the Communist Party and the active help supplied to the peasants gave them new courage for work, and the result is a full and unusual crop."

6,500 Strike in Anthracite

TAMAQUA, Pa.—About 6,500 anthracite miners went on strike again today in the Panther Creek region in protest against pay cuts of "consideration miners".

The consideration miners, supported by the United Mine Workers of America, contended that their pay was being cut for one hour a day's work and as a result they were receiving no benefit under the new seven hour shift.

Consideration miners are those paid by the hour instead of by production, and work in less desirable parts of the diggings.

700 Kids March on Picket Line

Indian Harbor, Ind.—The children's picket line in the steel strike was a huge success on Saturday, with between 700 and 800 youngsters on the line, singing and shouting before the gates of Inland Steel first, and Youngstown Sheet and Tube later on.

In between, the children marched through two miles of the city's streets, letting John Q. Public know there was a steel strike on, and they were with the strikers.

3 Taxi Firms Agree To Poll On Union

NEW YORK.—Another victory was won by the Transport Workers Union, CIO, when representatives of three taxi fleets agreed to an election among their 10,000 workers for a collective bargaining agency. The understanding was reached after a short hearing before the City Industrial Relation Board.

The Sunshine-Radio System, Inc., employing approximately 6,000 men, was represented by Otto Gutfreund. The Atlas and Liberty Fleets, with a total of 4,000 men were represented by A. Rosenblatt and Bernard L. Gold. The latter fleets are in one association and for the purpose of the election will be considered one organization.

Metro Workers Are Active in Amateur Art Circles

Learning to play as well as to work, 2,000 subway builders are now members of amateur art circles maintained at subway shafts, according to Y. Tettelbaum, director of amateur art activities for Metrostroi (Metro Construction Trust).

Leading in this sphere of cultural activity is Shaft No. 75, located on Ploshchad Mayakovskovo, whose song ensemble, Ukrainian chorus and brass band hold an eminent place in Metrostroi's roster of able entertainers.

A self-taught chorus and orchestra that have won deserved praise at public appearances are those of Shaft No. 61 on lower Ulitsa Gorkovo. No paid instructors are engaged to direct these groups.

Tenants Flock into Detroit Renters Group

DETROIT, Mich.—More than 5,000 applications for membership have been received in a few weeks by the Renters and Consumers League. It has been reported by the United Auto Workers' Union.

Furay is chairman of the organization, which is sponsored by the United Auto Workers Union.

Hundreds of letters are being received at the newly-opened offices of the organization from victims of landlord racketeers who are taking advantage of an acute housing shortage by raising rents without limit.

London Dockers Return To Work

Yesterday the dock strike here for 16s. a day extended to the whole of the docks. Over 7,000 dockers were out by midday and all work was brought to a standstill.

The extension of the strike was effected by mass deputations of those already on strike to the different docks in the area.

At a mass meeting held last night the dockers decided to return to work pending the outcome of the National negotiations on the same claim which opened in London today.

All through the day both employers and trade union officials made strenuous efforts to secure a return to work. The employers were particularly anxious to discharge the perishable cargoes on some of the boats and to clear liners which were held up by the dispute.

A joint statement issued early in the morning, confirming the declaration made yesterday that the dispute was unofficial and urging the men to return, had no effect.

500 million rubles For Art Theater, Music

More than 500 million rubles have been appropriated this year by the Soviet Government for theater and cinema construction, organization and upkeep of orchestras and choruses, expenditures on art schools, and so on.

The U. R. S. S. will have 813 theaters by Jan. 1, 1938, as against 775 at the beginning of this year. Large theaters are to be opened in Novosibirsk, Smolensk, Ivanovo and Kirov, while the new premises for the Meyerhold Theater in Moscow will be completed. A new drama theater is to be built in Leningrad.

The number of cinemas in the Soviet Union will be increased during the current year by 3,000, bringing the total to 30,000. At present there is not a single district in the Soviet Union which has not its own permanent or traveling cinema. Seventy-five new films, as well as 15 children's and 10 popular scientific films, will be released this year.



Comrade Bates lecturing to the boys in the transport



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Madrid, the grove of fascism

(Continued from page one)

The fight has been a hard one. The Fascists, as well as ourselves, realise how much is at stake and have resisted and counter-attacked desperately. Our soldiers have had to fight against the rebel shock-troops, and have taken positions which the enemy had fortified for months.

THE FOUNDATIONS OF VICTORY

The successes we have gained have only been possible because of the courage and morale of our soldiers. Some of our best comrades have fallen. The road our Army is travelling today is a difficult one, but it leads to great victories.

It is not an exaggeration to say

Thanks to Soviet diplomacy, which refuses to accept provocation, an incident quite evidently meant to create a major diplomatic disturbance, and perhaps war, ended in a complete victory for the Soviet Union. Coming at a moment of tension such as this, and on the heels of a recrudescence of provocations by Germany and Italy, this victory is of importance that cannot be exaggerated.

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Lisbon 5.—According to the director of the Portuguese Radio Club in a radio speech to the nation, the Italo-German policy in Spain is not in agreement with

and had on board observers of the Control Commission.

Paris 5.—"Le Temps", French conservative paper, in an article entitled "An appeal to Reason" demands that both England and France demand the inviolability of the territorial rights of Spain and that Spain's interests in the Mediterranean be respected.

July 3.—The Manchukuo Soviet border incident is closed, with the exception of the request to Japan by Comrade Litvinof, for a payment of an indemnity for the losses suffered.

Martial Law Closes Plant in Johnstown

Harrisburg, PA.—Gov. George H. Earle announced tonight that solution of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation strike problem in Johnstown has been placed in the hands of President Roosevelt's steel mediation board. Earle announced also that martial law in Johnstown will not be lifted tonight or tomorrow although the steel corporation has complied with the Governor's orders to close its huge struck Cambria plant.

Bus Strike Ends With Five More Arrests

The strike of Liverpool busmen, which began on Saturday last against the speeding-up of time

schedules, ended this morning following a mass meeting of strikers, which lasted for four hours.

Through their strike committee the men were informed that negotiations would be opened on the men's complaints immediately a resumption of work took place. On this understanding the strikers voted by 188 to 119 in favour of a return to work today.

It is reported that while the Ribbles Motor Company is prepared to reinstate the strikers it is intended to fine each man 5s. for alleged breach of contract.

If this attitude is persisted in it will indicate that the company is approaching the question of negotiations in a very bad spirit and its actions will intensify bitterness not only among the Liverpool men, but at all centres of the Ribbles Services.

Children Make Archeological Find

A group of children playing in the yard of the school at Pyatnitsky village, near Tula, while digging in the ground discovered an iron gun weighing 70 kg. The gun dates from the beginning of the 17th century and it is presumed that it was captured from the Muscovite Tsar Vasil Shuisky by insurgent peasants and Cossacks. The find was turned over to the Tula Museum.



Straddling the trenches on the Spanish front, comrades of the 15th Brigade will recognise this.

that these few days may decide the future happiness of millions of people. But we can await the outcome with confidence.

The militia of the early days saved Spain. Now our new People's Army has proved that it can successfully undertake a large scale offensive. Our aviation, artillery and tanks have proved their worth. Our war material, the fighting spirit of our soldiers, the successful work of the Commissars, the ability of our military leaders, the intensification of work in the fields and factories, the growing unity behind the lines, the successes already gained by the Armies of Aragon and the South, and the possibilities which the Madrid offensive has given them — all these factors are the foundations of our victory.

With our People's Army, a government which is proving that it can lead us to success, and the strengthening of the unity of all Anti-Fascists in Spain, the way is being opened to the final decisive battles which will drive out the invader and inflict a smashing defeat on world Fascism.

Franco's view. Their assertiveness and large scale invasion has hurt the cause of Franco before what is now fascist Spain and the rest of Europe.

July 5.—The fascist pirate cruiser "Almirante Cervera" seized the French Steamship Company's freighter "Tregastel" off the Santander Coast.

The French coast guard boat "Vauquois" which had left immediately upon receiving the information for Santander returned to San Juan de Luz, after carrying out the order to scour the coast for the "Tregastel", with the information that the freighter was taken under guard of a rebel pirate ship into Bilbao harbor.

July 5.—The paper "L'Ami du Peuple" in an article commenting the seizure of the "Tregastel" states: The probabilities of peace depend on the energetic conduct of Paris and London.

"L'Humanité" says: For France to tolerate piratical actions by the rebels and their allies would be a monstrosity.

The "Tregastel" was en route to Santander to take on refugees



Comrades James Ford, Bob Minor, and Ralph Bates with the boys of the Regiment de Train.

A BUMPER CROP FOR 1937

Over 7,500 tons of seed 110 millions of pesetas, all kinds of technical help and advice, along with favorable weather are producing this year a bumper crop for Loyalist Spain.

The work of the Minister of Agriculture in helping the Spanish peasantry has been remarkable, and has succeeded in offsetting quite completely whatever harm forced collectivisation, "expropriation" and pro-fascist propaganda tried to accomplish.

In a country like Spain, where agriculture was left for centuries very much to the mercy of the weather, of God and of the large land-owners, to see the government actively helping and even stimulating better ways in agriculture is something which has found immediate response among the workers in the fields.

Speaking on the subject of collectivisation in agriculture, Vincente Uribe, Minister for Agriculture recently said: "War must be won on all fronts, and since we have not won it as yet, it is premature to attempt dangerous experiments. Until now we had to face violence and oppression by elements which we must call 'Incontrollables'. These elements were not numerous, but they roamed through the countryside robbing the peasants.

"The Communist Party, which I represent in the Cabinet, told the peasants that they had a right to their crop and advised the peasants to resist the forced seizure

by any means found convenient. The advice of the Communist Party and the active help supplied to the peasants gave them new courage for work, and the result is a full and unusual crop."

6,500 Strike in Anthracite

TAMAQUA, Pa.—About 6,500 anthracite miners went on strike again today in the Panther Creek region in protest against pay cuts of "consideration miners".

The consideration miners, supported by the United Mine Workers of America, contended that their pay was being cut for one hour a day's work and as a result they were receiving no benefit under the new seven hour shift.

Consideration miners are those paid by the hour instead of by production, and work in less desirable parts of the diggings.

700 Kids March on Picket Line

Indian Harbor, Ind.—The children's picket line in the steel strike was a huge success on Saturday, with between 700 and 800 youngsters on the line, singing and shouting before the gates of Inland Steel first, and Youngstown Sheet and Tube later on.

In between, the children marched through two miles of the city's streets, letting John Q. Public know there was a steel strike on, and they were with the strikers.

3 Taxi Firms Agree To Poll On Union

NEW YORK.—Another victory was won by the Transport Workers Union, CIO, when representatives of three taxi fleets agreed to an election among their 10,000 workers for a collective bargaining agency. The understanding was reached after a short hearing before the City Industrial Relation Board.

The Sunshine-Radio System, Inc., employing approximately 6,000 men, was represented by Otto Gutfreund. The Atlas and Liberty Fleets, with a total of 4,000 men were represented by A. Rosenblatt and Bernard L. Gold. The latter fleets are in one association and for the purpose of the election will be considered one organization.

Metro Workers Are Active in Amateur Art Circles

Learning to play as well as to work, 2,000 subway builders are now members of amateur art circles maintained at subway shafts, according to Y. Tettelbaum, director of amateur art activities for Metrostroi (Metro Construction Trust).

Leading in this sphere of cultural activity is Shaft No. 75, located on Ploshchad Mayakovskovo, whose song ensemble, Ukrainian chorus and brass band hold an eminent place in Metrostroi's roster of able entertainers.

A self-taught chorus and orchestra that have won deserved praise at public appearances are those of Shaft No. 61 on lower Ulitsa Gorkovo. No paid instructors are engaged to direct these groups.

Tenants Flock into Detroit Renters Group

DETROIT, Mich.—More than 5,000 applications for membership have been received in a few weeks by the Renters and Consumers League. It has been reported by the United Auto Workers' Union.

Furay is chairman of the organization, which is sponsored by the United Auto Workers Union.

Hundreds of letters are being received at the newly-opened offices of the organization from victims of landlord racketeers who are taking advantage of an acute housing shortage by raising rents without limit.

London Dockers Return To Work

Yesterday the dock strike here for 16s. a day extended to the whole of the docks. Over 7,000 dockers were out by midday and all work was brought to a standstill.

The extension of the strike was effected by mass deputations of those already on strike to the different docks in the area.

At a mass meeting held last night the dockers decided to return to work pending the outcome of the National negotiations on the same claim which opened in London today.

All through the day both employers and trade union officials made strenuous efforts to secure a return to work. The employers were particularly anxious to discharge the perishable cargoes on some of the boats and to clear liners which were held up by the dispute.

A joint statement issued early in the morning, confirming the declaration made yesterday that the dispute was unofficial and urging the men to return, had no effect.

500 million rubles For Art Theater, Music

More than 500 million rubles have been appropriated this year by the Soviet Government for theater and cinema construction, organization and upkeep of orchestras and choruses, expenditures on art schools, and so on.

The U. R. S. S. will have 813 theaters by Jan. 1, 1938, as against 775 at the beginning of this year. Large theaters are to be opened in Novosibirsk, Smolensk, Ivanovo and Kirov, while the new premises for the Meyerhold Theater in Moscow will be completed. A new drama theater is to be built in Leningrad.

The number of cinemas in the Soviet Union will be increased during the current year by 3,000, bringing the total to 30,000. At present there is not a single district in the Soviet Union which has not its own permanent or traveling cinema. Seventy-five new films, as well as 15 children's and 10 popular scientific films, will be released this year.



Comrade Bates lecturing to the boys in the transport

THE INTERNAL CONDITIONS OF GERMANY

It is an obvious fact that necessity is what compels governments to commit desperate acts. The internal conditions of Italy and Germany are obviously desperate and no amount of fascist propaganda will ever convince the world of the contrary. How desperate the conditions of Germany are, for instance, one gathers from the following facts:

The "Frankfurter Zeitung" of June 21 publishes the following interesting little article:

MORE VEGETABLES-LESS MEAT

The reforms in the work corps and in the army.

Berlin, June 20.—In full agreement with the efforts being made by the Bureau of Public Health, which has always been in favor of greater use of potatoes and of vegetables in place of an exaggerated use of meat and fats, the work corps of the Reich has modified very satisfactorily its methods of feeding. According to the latest information supplied by a news agency, the army also is developing at present new methods of feeding. There also the results are exceedingly satisfactory.

At about the same time that this piece of information was published, Fascist Germany was trying its damndest to create an international incident by inventing the story of an attempted torpedoing of the cruiser "Lelpzig".

Some people, unluckily believe that a nation cannot wage a war when the economic conditions are so desperately poor. We know that the contrary is the truth.

At this moment Germany is the prey of a great deception. Although the international market is quite favorable, she is not capable of maintaining a favorable balance with the outside world.

Because of poor crops in the last two years, the import of grain cut deeply into the export balance of Germany. The first two years of fascism saw the best crops Germany had seen in many years. Fascism was quick to take advantage of the situation and to obtain full credit for what

was produced by an unusually favorable meteorological condition. The statistics of foreign grain stocks on hand will give a clearer

sipated and the money normally spent for grain purchase went for war preparations. And so now after cutting the bread rations and after the meatless days and the speeches by Göring on the necessity of cannon instead of butter we see a vegetarian army in the making.



WAR MAD

view of the real condition than any amount of writing.

April 1936. Wheat on hand, 1,231,700 tons.; White flour on hand, 141,100; Rye on hand, 896,100 tons.; Rye flour on hand, 65,600 tons.

By April 1937 the stocks had shrunk to:—Wheat, 649,500 tons.; Wheat flour, 70,100; Rye, 788,500; Rye Flour, 54,100.

But according to reliable information, German farmers in April of last year had some grain stocks still undelivered. This year the final delivery of grain was made long before April.

Because the good crops of the first two years were considered a permanent victory of fascism, and because the problem of grain production was thought solved, all reserves were allowed to be dis-

July 5.—A strongly worded letter, accusing the Nazis of sowing "the seed of hatred against Christianity" and referring to an attempt to murder Cardinal Faulhaber, Archbishop of Bavaria, has been sent to Hitler by the Bishop of Berlin, Count Preysing, on behalf of the German Episcopate.

Referring to the charges made in the Nazi Press of late in connection with the trials of priests for "immorality", the Bishop says:

"If this flood of filth is to go on being poured over the whole of Germany, the damage ultimately done will be of immense proportions. I ask therefore that consideration should be shown for the welfare of the people and that the exploitation of such trials for propaganda purposes should be brought to an end."

More and better Creamery Products Foreseen under Third Five-Year Plan

Soviet butter under the Second Five-Year Plan established for itself on the European market the reputation of being among the world's best. One of the principal tasks of the Third Five-Year Plan is to give Soviet cheese a similar position and to raise the Central Administration of the Butter and Cheese Industry to a leading place in the Peoples Commissariat of the Food Industry of the USSR.

Discussing with the Moscow Daily News recently the perspectives of the Third Five-Year Plan, Ivan Pavlovich Strotin, head of the Central Administration of the Butter and Cheese Industry of the Soviet Union, said that the main prerequisites for fulfilling these tasks are reconstruction and total mechanization of old plants and complete liquidation of "handicraft production. Strotin emphasized the fact that he was referring only to products manufactured by enterprises of the Peoples' Commissariat of the Food Industry. "You must not forget", he said, "that the collective farms, numerous local enterprises and many cooperative organizations also sell butter, cheese and other milk products on the Soviet market".



A night lecture at the Auto Park.

TO THE BOYS OF THE LINCOLN, WASHINGTON, THE MACKENZIE- PAPINEAU BATTALIONS

July 5, 1937

and — if it has come up —

Dear comrades,

I was all set to come and see you, but I find you are, doing things much more important than seeing me... So I'm going to trail along with the Young Socialist-Communist Youth delegations, the Writers Congress, and other dull — and not so dull — non-combatants. Maybe later, when you folks have written a little more history, I shall come back to write it down, but by that time you will be chasing Franco so fast over the borders of Portugal and into the Atlantic that you will be even harder to reach than now.

I have been impressed in coming back after six months absence, with the progress that Spain has made... Both in a military sense and even economically... A bumper harvest, harvested in part with the aid of "Red Sundays"; factories now really producing munitions; education forging ahead...

Spain has a good chance of coming out of this war, not only victorious — of that there is no doubt — but also as a new, modern military power in Europe, a power that will be passionately anti-fascist... It is strange that England and France don't see this, and get her for ally while the getting is good... All revolutionary wars, all wars for independence, tend to leave after them a strong nation... Thus after the American War for Independence, the French Revolution, the Russian Revolution... Thus will it be with Spain. And I don't need tell you boys how important it will be for all the anti-fascist forces of the world to have built up such an ally...

Spain is really the first action — or rather the second action — of that famous "final conflict" of which we all sing... Good luck to you in your share of it... I do not need to wish you good courage, for you all have that... I wish you coolness, good judgment, clear decision in the midst of what seems chaos, and quick, effective action to follow decision... For these — with the courage and conscious discipline you have already — will bring you through to a maximum success with minimum losses.

We are all very proud of you and are going to be prouder.

ANNA LOUISE STRONG

Akron Rubber Workers join steel pickers

AKRON, O. — Thousands of Akron Rubber Workers dodged around police barricades on main roads leading into Youngstown last night to join S.W.O.C. picket lines about the plants of the Republic Steel Co.

This mustering of the fighting strength of the rubber workers' international was the answer made here to the threat of Republic officials that struck plants in Youngstown would be opened at 7 o'clock this morning.

After a midnight mobilization of Akron CIO supporters at local union balls, an automobile caravan of 4,000 rubber workers swept over the main roads from Akron to Youngstown.

The main column was preceded by motorcycle scouts who reported police barricades and guided

the rubber workers over unguarded back roads to their objectives in the Youngstown strike areas.

A few hundred of the rubber workers were turned back by police at hastily erected barriers outside Youngstown. Forty were arrested and jailed on charges ranging from carrying "concealed weapons" to suspicion.

By 4:30 a. m. the rubber workers had massed by the thousands with striking steel workers before the gates of the Republic plants where Tom Girdler's "Back to Work" march had been scheduled.

3,000 textile workers out.

CLEVELAND, Ohio. — Nearly 3,000 workers of the Cleveland Worsted Mills of this city, and Rayenne, Ohio, came out on strike after attempts by the Textile Workers' Organizing Committee to reach an agreement with firm failed.

Connecticut Unions Speed Political Action

C. I. O. and A. F. of L. Locals, Farm and Church Groups Name State Committee for Labor's Non-Partisan League at New Haven.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—Representatives of C. I. O. and A. F. of L. unions today joined together for independent political action with the formation of a state branch of Labor's Non-Partisan League in Connecticut. Representatives of nearly every union in the state were present.

Besides adopting numerous resolutions, the conference accepted in principle a constitution for the state organization, elected a state committee, and laid plans for future work.

Cio calls Labor "Holiday" at East St. Louis.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill.—The CIO called a "labor holiday" involving the 3,000 employees of the Swift and Armour packing plants here yesterday.

The move was a step towards organizing the packing industry.

The American Front

This is taken from a letter received by a comrade in Spain from New York.

"Things are happening so fast here. The C. I. O. which was a strong breeze when you left has become a veritable cyclone. It has really engaged the masses. Even the most backward workers lie awake nights praying that the C. I. O. will come to their shops next. For instance the Irishman down stairs told me this morning he was itching for the C. I. O. to come and organize the building employees."

"Really if you read everything in the Worker from day to day you get sort of dizzy. We are marching forward at a tremendous pace. ... America is going to have a People's Front. America is going to have a large trade Union movement and in this movement we are going to be decisive..."

Motor products Closed by sit-down

DETROIT, Mich.—The Motor Products Corp. plant, a subsidiary of the Briggs Manufacturing Co., was closed by a sit-down yesterday when the company locked out its drivers. More than 3,500 workers are affected.

TO THE LINCOLN BATTALION: DEAR FELLOW-WORKERS:

I wanted very much to visit the Lincoln Battalion, but as you yourselves know, it was impossible. In the absence of a personal visit, however I want to send you a message.

To-day is a very apt time to send greetings to Americans fighting for the Independence of Spanish workers from international fascism. Our own Revolution 150 years ago was not dissimilar.

I am going home from my brief but fruitful trip to Spain determined to rally the whole American trade union movement behind the struggle in Spain.

The cause of the Spanish workers is the cause of democracy, and as much our concern as Spain's. You here have realized this. My duty is to see that the millions of other workers in America also realize it.

My thought are with you, and my warmest fraternal greetings to the Battalion.

FRANCIS GOEMAN

President United Textile Workers of America.
Member North American Committee to aid Spanish Democracy.

July

LE VOLONTAIRE
LIBERTÉ



18 JUNE
1968

TOWARDS ONE WORKERS PARTY

This week Comrade Thorez, leader of the French Communist Party addressed another appeal to the Second International for concrete decisions in the question of aid to the Spanish people. With considerable melancholy we have to admit that this is proof that the Socialist parties of Europe have not all yet realised that the historic moment for international solidarity has arrived, and with something of shame one must record that the objection within the Second International to working with the Comintern has come chiefly from the British Labour Party, which too evidently appears to be keeping step with Mr. Eden.

Within Spain, working class unity has made one more step forward this week with the presenting to the Executive Committee of the Spanish Workers' Socialist Party of the Communist Party's official proposal for the fusion of the two parties.

A CONCRETE PROGRAMME IS OUTLINED

In the preamble the Communist Party says that the joining of the two parties and the creation of one workers' party is absolutely essential to the winning of the war and the revolution, and to the safeguarding of the Popular Front, as also of the direction of the national economy. "Without this unification it is difficult to conceive the economic and social organisation of the New Spain."

This fusion should not be difficult, says José Diaz, because "there are no divergences of principle between the Parties. Both are inspired by the Marxist-Leninist ideology, whose best exponent and upholder today is Comrade Stalin; both regard as their historic mission the destruction of capitalist exploitation, of all exploitation and oppression of man by man, or of one nation by another; and the building of the Socialist (Communist) society without classes".

The first point of the programme deals with the army strengthening OF THE FIGHTING POWER OF THE POPULAR RE-

GULAR ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

This paragraph demands "the suppression of the Militia or of autonomous sectors of the front: better application of the decree on obligatory service: steady in-

crease of the number of well-trained, well-armed and well-disciplined reserves: energetic and methodical purge to cleanse the military apparatus of traitors, saboteurs and incapables; a fearless policy of promoting to high com-

mand of the leaders who have sprung from the people and have received their training in the fire of battle; supreme unified command... and practical and moral help to raise the prestige of the war commissars in their extremely responsible work".

On the question of war industry the programme says "it is necessary to ask the government to proceed immediately with the nationalisation and militarisation of all existing war industries as well as the creation of new ones, handing over of all arms in the rearguard, and a mass drive among the working class to increase the level of production. New roads are called for, as also the development of transport resources.

COORDINATION OF ECONOMY AND IMPROVEMENT OF WORKING CONDITIONS

Here a centralisation of all planning is demanded, together with the municipalisation of public and urban services. Trade Unions and Workers cooperatives are to be represented on the National Board of Economy. Though the workers well understand that during war time it is difficult to carry out thorough going reforms yet these are necessary; the conditions of the workers must be rapidly improved.

An intensification of agricultural production must be worked for also. The soil must be guaranteed to those who work it, the peasant must be free to collectivise or not as he desires, financial, technical and commercial help must be given to the peasants, whether working individually or in freely formed collectives.

Other sections of this extremely interesting document deal with the right of certain areas of Spain to a great degree of independence. This, of course, refers to Catalonia, Biscaya and Galicia. Only on the basis of independence and mutual trust can a really united Spain come into existence. In another paragraph the Communist Party proposes that the policy of maintaining good relations with the loyal sections of the middle class shall be continued.

COMRADE GEORGE BROWN

To the comrades of the English Battalion

Comrades; it is not the most fitting that one man alone should write what he feels about the loss of our comrade. I have telegraphed to London for a biography of Comrade Brown, but so far it has not arrived. When it does it will be published in full.

George and I slept in the same room while he was stationed here in Madrid. I had never met him before, but we soon became good friends; those who have worked with him will know why. We used often to talk of political work. He always spoke humorously of his own work, but listening to his shrewd accounts and analyses, and feeling his sincerity and steady conviction, one could understand his great worth to the workers' movement.

There was an affectionate warmth in Comrade George Brown, combined with a hard and clear understanding that made him a splendid companion in work. Dry and mechanical formality had no place in our comrade, everything was living material, to be handled with sympathy and care. I never saw him treat a single problem as a mere matter of routine.

He was always anxious to return. I remember how Harry Pollitt, to the comrades of the Battalion. George and I rode down past the

North station in Madrid through the ruined outskirts of the city. That afternoon he told me again that he wanted to be back with you comrades. A day later he came excitedly to me, obviously very happy, and said he was indeed returning to you. We talked a long time on the stairs of this building, over an hour; he had a humorous remark about that also. The next day I was sent to Valencia. When I returned I heard of his death. Well, comrades, you knew him better than we did, but it was a very sad day for us.

The battle for liberty cannot be fought without losses. His was a very great loss. Comrade Lenin once said that for every Communist who falls a hundred will take his place. There will be, there must be someone who will later replace our comrade, because History has signalled us out for Victory. Nevertheless we mourn him as a grand fighter and as a man. Whoever follows him will have a fine example.

I said that it seemed wrong to me that I should write about Comrade Brown, because he was the Battalion's comrade. But I knew him, I knew his great worth and his fine manliness and that is why I have written.

RALPH BATES

All this is presented to the Socialist party not as a cut and dried plan, but as material for discussion which conforms to the general line of the Party.

PRINCIPLES OF ORGANISATION

That the campaign for unity has gone for beyond the propaganda stage can be seen from this, that the proposals include a section dealing with the organisation of the future party. This is part of what is suggested, "democratic centralism and severe, voluntarily imposed discipline, right of criticism and discussion and duty of selfcriticism but, when a decision is taken on a question... the decision must be obligatory for everyone."

THE OPINION OF SOCIALISTS AND U. G. T. MEMBERS

The issue of Saturday of the U. G. T. organ "Claridad" is commenting of the problem of working class unity says.

"The struggle and work in common have created, between socialists and communists, a solidarity and an identity of aspiration and sacrifice, which today is expressed in the vehement desire for unity... we can better commemorate this first anniversary of the war by making closer the union which we have forged out in the trenches and which we have watered with our blood."

In headlines "Claridad" demands ONE SINGLE PARTY FOR THE PROLETARIAT. This is the spirit of unity which will bring us victory, this is the vision which every worker who values his own integrity has always had, this is our guarantee of a world that an honest man may be happy to live in. At this moment the thrilling words of Pasionaria are ringing out over the wireless from the great meeting which the two parties are holding today in Madrid. There are enemies of unity, even in Spain, but they will be powerless to hold back the tide. How long will the gentlemen of Transport house keep closed their eyes? The workers of Spain demand unity between the two Internationals. They are right, for they are the vanguard of the proletarian world.

THE PIG'S SNOUT IN SPANISH ECONOMY

The speech made by Hitler in Wuerzburg on June 27, in which he said that what Germany is after is the iron ore of the Basque provinces, only put before the eyes of the general public what in the international financial and industrial world had long been known.

The conquest of Spain's mineral wealth by Germany and Italy might have been carried out in a comparatively peaceful way had the fascist generals and "noblemen" been able to conquer the central government and submit Spain rapidly and decisively. Failing in that attempt, as we all know, the war "against the reds" as Hitler and Mussolini tried to call it at the beginning, was bound to take on more and more a decided form of economic conquest, unashamed and ruthless.

What agreements have been made between Italy and Germany concerning the partition of the spoils we do not know, but Spain possesses rich iron deposits in Spanish Morocco, and among other places, extremely rich deposits of high grade ore near Bilbao.

German heavy industry is notoriously short of iron ore under its own direct control. Since long ago the large manufacturers of the Rhineland and of Westphalia have been casting voracious eyes on Northern Spain.

Ferdinand Friedensburg in his book "Mineral deposits as factors of political and military power", printed in Stuttgart in 1936 says:

"The great and ever increasing activity of Germany in the field of international mining economy has as a goal, first of all the oil of Rumania, the iron ore production of France, Spain and Scandinavia and the conquest of lead and zinc ore in other parts of the world. (Spain is also rich in lead and zinc.)"

Krupp tried as long ago as 1924 to lay its hand on Spanish iron when, at the time of the notorious deal about the cannon shells percussion cap patents, Vickers gave Krupp the Basque iron mining and smelting plants "Fabrica Mie-

res, S. A." in exchange for the British patent rights. Krupp has also interests in the "Crconera Iron Co." of Bilbao, in the "Maquinista Terrestre y Maritima" of Barcelona and in several ship-building plants, chiefly in that of "Echevarrieta" of Cadiz.

It was on the 22d of January that the "Wirtschaftsdienst" (Economic Informations) of Hamburg rather dolefully stated that "The Spanish heavy industry centers, chiefly the iron ore region surrounding Bilbao and the coal mines of Asturias were not yet under Franco's control. Two weeks later, Mola started the offensive against Bilbao using for the action freshly arrived troops from Italy and Germany. The organ of Hjalmar Schacht at about the same time made a politico-military commentary on the necessity of conquering the Basque iron, which is the most frank statement yet made on the motives of Germany in this war. "The menace of the nationalist troops against the iron mineral region of Bilbao... touches the interests of Great Britain not only in what concerns the freedom of the seas... but also on what is by far the most delicate problem, which is the of iron ore supply to the British new armament program." The paper continues by saying that the absence of the iron ore would considerably embarrass the British program.

And so the strange game of hide and seek of the democratic countries for ever ready to duck the blows without taking a definite stand against the Fascist blackmailers goes on. The new proposal by Great Britain for a new form of control against Spain is one more evidence that the lesson has not yet been learned, and that fascist insolence may run wild for some time longer.

The interests of Great Britain are unquestionably in opposition to those of Germany and Italy, but the British Tories are still waverling between democratic Spain and a fascist assertion against the workers the world over. Hence the titubations...

News in brief

July 9.—Here is how "Pravda" comments on the visit of George Lansbury to Mussolini.

"In April this year Mr. Lansbury visited Hitler, taking upon himself the high mission of transforming the leader of German Fascism into "a peacemaker and genuine Christian"

"With this same aim Lansbury now goes to Rome. He intends to preach non-resistance to the Duce himself."

"Lansbury is, in essence, playing the role of advocate for the most die-hard aggressors, the most outspoken warmongers. His trip to Berlin was most advantageous for German diplomacy, which at that time found it profitable demagogically to demonstrate its pseudo peace-loving policy in order to receive an international loan.

FALLEN AGAIN

"Now Lansbury has fallen into the Fascist trap again. Mussolini, who is carrying on large-scale intervention in Spain, has nothing against coming out in irresponsible talk with this Labour leader as a picture of holiness, wishing only eternal peace and quiet in Europe.

"Undoubtedly Lansbury's visit of respect to the Fascists takes place not without the knowledge of certain circles in Britain, which constantly pursue the policy of helping the aggressors morally or materially."

July 10. — Juan March, the smuggling millionaire and business agent for the Spanish Fascist Rebels, is once more on his way to Rome.

More about him, the meaning of his trips and on the importance of the man can be gathered from the letter quoted here below and written by the former Spanish Minister Diego Hidalgo to a friend in Switzerland.

OWE ALL TO MARCH

"Without March all would have been lost some time ago. When one day we have the opportunity to talk to one another again, I

will explain to you how it is that the support we have received from Italy and Germany for our movement we owe entirely to March. You can take it from me that the Germans and Italians in Spain share this high opinion of him.

"From a friend like yourself I cannot conceal the truth. Franco, who is clever, would have done had success come quickly, as we hoped, but he is useless in a hard fight. He is not the stuff that leaders are made of; the consequence is that the "falangists" don't treat him seriously, and he inspires no confidence among the traditionalists, the monarchists, and even in militar circles.

"ONLY BRAIN"

"March, who is the real and only brain we have, is working to finish up as head of the state, or to become at least a representative leading figure, entitled to nominate a government based on real talent. The unfortunate part about it is that this talent shows no sign of putting in an appearance, unless it be in the person of March himself, which, you understand, is of course quite impossible".

SUBMIT TO ALL UNITS AND HOSPITALS

Comrades: In order to facilitate and render more efficient the expedition of mail, the following rules and regulations must be observed.

1) Your address is, as the following example:

Socorro Rojo, Plaza Altozano N... Albacete (España).

Your unit number will be given to you by the responsible comrade of the unit you join. No other address will do.

2) Outgoing addresses must be as follows.

John Doe, 245 W 45th St., New York, N. Y. (U. S. A.).

John Doe, 16 Gloucester Place, London, W. C. (England).

3) There shall not appear any return address, rubber stamp impressions; postage stamps or any wording, markings etc. that would indicate the original point of departure, for any correspondence.

There are only two countries Franco and Czechoslovakia, to which mail can be sent direct.

4) No officially headed paper or envelopes are to be used for private correspondence purposes.

5) Envelopes are not to be sealed.

6) No panoramic photographs or postcard views other than single buildings will be passed. All postcards must be enclosed in envelopes.

8) No report of deaths unless officially confirmed. Information to be obtained from political commissar.

9) No articles to the press whatever, will be passed, unless sanctioned by the Political Commissar of Unit or Brigade.

10) No names of towns or fronts must appear on heading or in body of letter. No strategic descriptions of military actions or battles allowed.

11) Packets of up to 500 grams can be conveniently forwarded both ways. In view of our past experiences it is indicated that it is necessary to register all packets and parcels, or letters with valuable objects enclosed.

12) All applications for leave of absence, or repatriation must be submitted through the regular channels indicated. Letters addressed otherwise will be returned.

13) Any letters or packages which do not conform to the above regulations will either be returned to the responsible comrade of Unit; or subjected to a delay of from three days to three weeks. We cannot hold up the mail of the comrades who are abiding by the rules.

14) No telegrams will be accepted, unless approved and signed for by the Political Commissar of the Base.

By order of the Government.

Base de las Brigadas Internacionales. Comisario politico.



Soviet pavilion monument at the Paris exhibition.

¡PASAREMOS!

"War", writes the great military theorist Von Clausewitz, "is the continuation of politics." The Madrid offensive of the People's Army is the clearest possible illustration of this principle. A year of scattered but tremendous initiatives of millions of Spaniards and the central line of the New People's Front Government have been aimed precisely toward this drive. In the days of the rebel advance on Madrid when the militias retreated helplessly before the modern planes and tanks of their international Fascist enemy, the Fifth Regiment toiled heroically to create regular troops. In the heroic November days new reserves of popular energy were tapped to save Madrid, and with these reserves and the Fifth Regiment as a base, the Defense Junta of Madrid forged the Army of the Center. Málaga had to fall, the battles of the Jarama take their toll, the Blackshirts suffer a tremendous defeat above Guadalupe, and the Spanish people change Cabinets before the Army of the Center could be duplicated on a national scale. It took one whole year to create a regular Army, establish compulsory military service, subject the Army to a single General Staff. The work is still not completed. The perfection of that Army, the purging of its commanding staff of militarists of doubtful loyalty or mediocre talent and replacing them by officers taken from the ranks and tested as to ability and to loyalty by a year of fire — these are continuous tasks. There is no point at which the improvement of that military weapon ends, and so in examining the results of the first major offensive of the Spanish people against the invading forces of Italy and Germany, we must bear in mind that this is the work of a part of our forces at a given degree of development. The experiences of the offensive itself sweep the People's Army inevitably on to higher levels.

The Madrid front was the logical choice for the offensive, but it was equally obvious that the rebels could not be driven away from the heroic capital simply by head on attacks against extremely well-fortified positions. To attack those positions from the rear, to penetrate the rebel lines and strike from left and right, was a natural approach to this problem

GIVEN AN ARMY OF SUFFICIENT MOBILITY AND A COORDINATION OF SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY to make it feasible. THE FIRST LESSON OF THE PRELIMINARY PHASE OF THE GREAT OFFENSIVE IS THAT THE PEOPLE'S ARMY IS A MOBILE BODY WITH AN EFFECTIVE CENTRAL COMMAND.

On the night of July 5th Government forces descended from the neighborhood of the Madrid-Escorial road (we may use Valdemorillo as a concrete point) and penetrated rapidly into Fascist territory west of Madrid and along the foothills of the Guadarramas. The first day's work was divided roughly as follows: The Fifth Army Corps took Brunete at 6 a. m. with little difficulty; the Eighteenth fought all day and until ten p. m. for well-fortified and stubbornly defended Villanueva de la Cañada.

In preparation for the offensive, guerrillero's had cut the rebel railway lines at some point or points between their Madrid Front and their supply bases, keeping them closed for over forty-eight hours. Government forces near Seseña initiated an attack north and eastward, embarrassing the rebel rear on the Jarama. A third supporting action was an attack along the Villaverde-Usera front, pushing the rebel front line on the Toledo Road back to kilometer seven.

All this was accompanied by tremendous air activities. Every rebel position in the whole central area was bombed and strafed mercilessly. A gasoline deposit at Navalcarnero went up in smoke on the first day. On anti-aircraft we broke even, bringing down and losing one plane (altho anti-aircraft brought down two planes outside the center area that same day). But in the air itself, especially in a fight over Navalcarnero, a week of air-victories was initiated: three Heinkels falling and two burning up. Other spoils of the day were eighty odd prisoners at Brunete, over one hundred at Villanueva, a battery of 10.5's and smaller booty. The rebel reply: a vicious shelling of Madrid at night!

7.7 The loyal line of penetration had at once to be widened and our troops moved very little south, concentrating on pushing

the Fascists back to East and West. The towns themselves resisted stubbornly and our glorious air fleet — the Spaniards say, "Glorious" and understand "aviation" — worked a twenty — four hour day. Two Fiats sandwiched a loyal bomber and filled it full of holes, but bomber and crew returned safely whereas one Fiat failed to return. Then over Madrid, while the whole population watched from the roofs, 20 of our cazas fought a huge Fascist fleet including a new type of two seater, the fastest plane yet seen here. Score: two Fiats down and we lost a biplane.

7.8 Our troops took the positions of Minguito, Romanillos, Los Llanos and the castle of Villafranca, but the towns of Quijorna, Villanueva del Pardillo, Villafranca, etc., resisted. An enemy counterattack at Ussera failed. In the air, one Fiat down; one Junker damaged; one loyal bomber damaged, one dead, remainder of crew wounded.

7.9 at 11.30 a.m. Quijorna fell. Among the over 200 prisoners were many Moors from the French protectorate in Morocco. Our aviation spent this and succeeding days bombing aerodromes; definitely destroyed two planes in Granada. On the Burgos-Santander front thousands of Italians now replacing Moors and Fascists.

7.10 Whole company infantry waves white handkerchiefs south of Brunete when their captain out of action. Since Tuesday our anti-air guns have brot down five planes. German air-captain dies in our hospital. Fighting around Villanueva del Pardillo.

7.11 Villanueva del Pardillo surrenders. Over 600 prisoners behave as though they had escaped from bondage, cheering spontaneously all the way to Madrid.

7.12-7.30 The Glorious brings down 25 enemy planes in two days, while we lost five Three rebel chasers attack one bomber which brings down two of them before it falls; the pilot and bomber fell in Na man's land and got back to our lines although the bomber was severely wounded on the way. At 5 p.m. on 12th, a big air fight with 33 loyal chasers fighting six trimotors five bimotors and thirty cazas. Score: 1 Heinkel, 8 Fiats (three of latter in our lines). We lost a plane and one plane that went deep in rebel territory in the morning failed to

return. In Mallorca another Fiat down.

7pm On the 13th nine rebel cazas and two new type monoplanes were brooght down over Navalcarnero. Antiaircraft guns brought down another rebel plane, the pilot being taken prisoner. In addition our tiny "moscas" damaged a Junker and one chaser was seen wobbling.

The rebel line on the La Corufia sualties, plus over 1.200 prisoners, and have lost 100 square miles of road was cut at kilometer 16.5 (ten miles from Madrid toward El Escorial).

7.14 Seven Fiats down. Two loyal bombers lagged and were

answer pressure for pressure, attack for attack. The threat to Madrid from this side is weakened, and instead the Fascist forces move uneasily on the defensive. Loyal artillery can now pound the Campamento on the Navalcarnero Road from behind their fortifications. Supply difficulties for the rebels increase a hundredfold. In general, as the time draws near for the decisive battles that will free Madrid and Spain, rebel attack positions have become defensive ones that drain their resources. This is the result of the first phase of the offensive.

But if we bear in mind the preliminary question of army deve-

lopment with which we began this study, a far more important result of the offensive is seen. The ease and smoothness with which a small part of the People's Army — two Corps — executed this manoeuvre tell us the Army is ripening fast for the great drive to Seville. And one concrete fact stands out above all other from the results of the attack, the recruits who bore the brunt of the fighting proved themselves good soldiers. That is of incalculable importance, for it means that the still untapped reserves of Spanish manhood can now rapidly be absorbed at full military efficiency into the People's Army.



downed; fell in our lines but all four men dead.

7.15 Rebels have now sent powerful reinforcements as manifested by the stubborn fight going on at Villafranca del Castillo where artillery is tremendous. Big dogfight over Madrid in which 32 our planes participate. Six Fiats down, one mosca which fell in our lines, pilot dead.

7.18 Results of first phase of offensive: Rebels have lost 35 planes; plus planes destroyed in aerodromes suffered over 4000 casualties.

Before the offensive the rebels maintained a pincers on Madrid. Now, behind the claw that goes from Las Rozas to University City, loyal forces stand ready to

POLAR EXPEDITION CHIEFS PROMISE SCIENTIFIC RESULTS

The aviators, which carried the Polar Expedition under the direction of Professor Otto Schmidt and his companions to the top of the world, are back in Moscow.

Next year the same aviators will go to the North Pole to take the scientists back to Moscow. Prof. Otto Schmidt, in a reception speech in Moscow promised that, "with the co-operation of the four which will remain at the Pole for a year the Polar Expedition will supply to science and mankind all

that the North Pole will be capable of giving."

Vodopianov, the pilot, belittled the dangers of the expedition. "Now that a power like the Soviet Union is behind polar explorers, the dangers that made previous expeditions extremely dangerous no longer are to be considered serious. Within a year, there is no doubt about it, we'll go back to the North Pole and fetch the four comrades back home."

ONE YEAR OF FASCIST INVASION

A YEAR OF TRAGEDY AND GLORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT

This week the Spanish people enter the second year of the war which has been forced on them by the treachery of a few traitor generals and corrupt political leaders of the type of the cowardly Gil Robles. This week they enter the second year of their magnificent struggle against the fascist invader, against Portugal Italy and Germany. This week the Spanish people concludes one year of resistance to the slow but murderous policy of Non Intervention weapon of the British imperialist classes. These are the three principal enemies of the Spanish people; there is yet another, the incomprehension of certain people who call themselves working class leaders. It will be useful briefly to survey the course events have taken.

From the very beginning one thing must be understood; before the rising of July of last year, before even the coming of the Popular Front government of February 1936 foreign fascism was plotting in Spain. This is no mere assertion based upon political probability, but a historical and documented certainty. When the German consulate was taken over in Barcelona masses of documents were discovered covering a period of several years. Among them were papers incriminating Spanish politicians of the extreme right. German business houses, German consulates and journalistic agencies were all systematically engaged in spying, corruption and propaganda in this country. Spanish right leaders were importing arms months before the Franco rebellion. Moreover an economic survey had been clandestinely made by German specialists. For what reason? Hitler's recent declaration that he has intervened in Spain because he needs metals for his war plans provides the answer. The economic occupation of Spain had been planned by the capitalists behind Hitler before the coming of the Popular Front government. The Spanish fascists who tried to overthrow that government were only the tools of foreign powers.

THE TECHNIQUE OF FASCIST IMPERIALISM

It was the Italian war against Abyssinia and the shameful betrayal of that member of the League of Nations by the leading members of the League, with the exception of the Soviet Union, that provided the German and Italian dictators with the model. By encouraging the Spanish fascist to revolt and stepping in to help them, they knew they could make open war on Spain without openly declaring it according to legal tradition. The Sanctions policy of the League of Nations in the case of Abyssinia told Hitler and Mussolini plainly enough that the rival imperialism of so-called democratic England would connive at the betrayal. This much must be understood; it is British imperialism which is responsible, not only for the policy of Non Intervention, but for the fact that Franco knew he could rely on the support of the enemies of his country.

THE POPULAR FRONT GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN

Faced with the reversal of most of the valuable reforms of the Republic of 1931 by the Right governments of the renegade Lerroux and the Catholic-C. E. D. A. machine-gunner-by proxy Gil Robles, the Spanish progressive parties in 1935 formed the People's Front, upon a basis of guaranteed support to a government of Left Republicans working with a modest liberal programme. (The P. O. U. M., later viciously to attempt to stab the People's government in the back, signed this treaty. Within two months of that government taking office the P. O. U. M. was denouncing it.) At the elections of February 1936 the People's Front was victorious, the tempo of the world attack of the fascists on democracy was at once enormously accelerated. The miscalculation in the fascist plans was enormous. The assumption had been that Spain would easily fall victim and that no one would

come to her aid. Both counts were utterly wrong.

Franco thought he would repeat the 1923 success of General Primo de Rivera, Hitler and Mussolini, expected Spain to be another Abyssinia. They were right enough about the part the League Of Nations was to play, but they had not reckoned upon the heroism of the Spanish people, the solidarity of masses of the world proletariat, and the honour and rectitude of two governments, those of Mexico and the Soviet Union.

THE FIRST PHASE OF THE WAR

Most comrades will remember that the first stage may be characterised as the Romantic stage. In this period the Spanish people attempted to defeat fascism with ill organised though heroic militia groups. The result was that faced by the disciplined army of traitor troops and Moorish mercenaries the Spanish people were heading for defeat. There is no need to repeat what was formerly said in the articles on the evolution of the army, it suffices to say that the vast problem facing Spain was how to achieve organisation and discipline; how to destroy the Black Legend. The legend of an invertebrate Spain. That evil tradition has been destroyed, that it ever existed was due to the tyranny of outlived classes of governors. This much the war has proved.

In the field of foreign affairs another huge problem was to be faced. While feverishly rearming and preparing for war the British imperialists forced upon the other European governments the policy cynically called Non Intervention. Under this policy even arms that had been bought before the war had begun were withheld from the Spanish government, by the British and French governments in particular. The latter government had long demanded that Spain purchase her arms in France. However, while other governments professed to be unconvinced, the Soviet government soon exposed

the perfidy of the fascist powers who from the very first had been liberally supplying the rebels with arms and technical help. In October the Russian workers government declared that it would not be bound by the Non Intervention Pact to any greater extent than certain other countries.

This event may be said to begin the second phase of the war. Out of the first violent and excited confusion a regular army was beginning to emerge, crystallising round the Fifth Regiment organised by the Communist Party. The confusion in governmental administration was also beginning to disappear. Before this date even the government of the Left Radical Party, to which Spain owes a tremendous debt, had invited the other parties of the Popular Front to help it form a new government. In the first week of September the Communist Party entered the government.

The important phenomena to understand are these, that the Spanish people had realised what its task was, had achieved a great measure of organisation at the very moment when it ceased to be isolated in the world, when a great power and that a workers' power called the fascist bluff, and when the first demonstration of proletarian solidarity arrived in Madrid: the First International Brigade.

The International Brigade, the first of which was under the Command of General Kleber (now in command of the 45th Division) arrived in time to help drive back the first fascist attack on the city, which began on the 7th of November. It was at University City that the First International, the 11th of the Peoples Army, put up one of the most magnificent performances that history has on record. It was the 11th and 12th brigades which bore the brunt of the University City fighting, when the news was received that a certain body of troops had been driven out of it. Dramatic and desperate fighting went on for days, often from room to room, until the fascists were definitely held.

THE GOVERNMENTS AIR FORCE ARRIVES

About November the Fourth the air raids on Madrid began to become very serious, it was at once evident that they followed the German plan of attempting to demoralise the civilian people. Crowds of working class folk in the Glorieta park were suddenly bombed and machine-gunned one Sunday afternoon. Night raids soon began so that the city by night began to look like a region of blast furnaces, a red glare overhanging it. However the head of the Junta de Defensa, General Miaja, announced that in this respect the Madrileños might shortly expect to see something interesting. A few days later, when German bombers were droning over the city, a squadron of all-metal monoplanes roared over the house-tops and for the first time Madrid watched its aerial defenders chase the fascists out of the sky.

But once again the character of fascist aid to Franco changed.

SPAIN INVADED BY REGULAR IMPERIALIST TROOPS

In December and January Italian and German regiments began to arrive, later whole divisions, complete with staffs and equipment were found in action. While the numerical ratio of the I. B. has diminished as the Peoples Army grew, more and more has Franco been compelled to rely on foreign troops. With this new danger the Spanish Government as formerly constituted was hardly fit to cope. It had been composed of every important political sector of the Peoples Front, the anarcho-syndicalists of the FAI-CNT having entered in November, but there was no real unified cabinet programme.

Just as the National economy was a Jacob's coat of many-colored experiment, of different types of administration, so in a lesser degree the Governmental policy showed a marked dissimilarity of outlook between department and department. With the sudden increase of fascist help to Franco, and the Traitor's change of strategic plan represented by the flanking battles of the Jarama and Guadalajara fronts a real concentration of effort was needed.

In May 17th the present Negrin Government came into power. Recruiting at once was conducted at

a greatly sharpened tempo; the first problem to which the government had put its hand was that of creating the reserves which the nature of an offensive against the invaders made vital. At the same time the work of seriously organising the nation's economy was begun. And finally the first definite offensive was launched in July. This period, beginning with the months of January and February may be called the Realist Period., all illusion of easy victory had long since vanished instead, the Spanish people had become aware that not only its own independence was at stake, but that it was fighting the battle of world freedom. The Popular Revolution had reached its full consciousness. Defeat had become impossible.

In the outside world the coming of the Negrin government was accompanied by dramatic possibilities. The shelling of the open city of Almeria by the German warships engaged in "Control" lead to a crisis in the Policy of Non Intervention. The German and Italian Governments at once withdrew from the sub-committee of Control and demanded extravagant and altogether too fantastic a set of conditions for renewed cooperation. Nevertheless the fatuous Mr Eden, whom any novelist would reject as too obvious a caricature of a man, agreed. A few days later the German, dictator announced that the Leipzig had been marrowly missed by a "Red" torpedo and demanded joint action from Britain and France under the terms of the Four Power Pact which had emerged from the Almeria tragedy. To the astonishment of many, Eden refused.

Once again the British government set about trying to prop up the cretinoid dummy of Non Intervention, but the refusal by Germany and Italy of all feasible proposals and the final refusal by the fascist puppet Portugal of all control of her frontier put a momentary end to these efforts. On Tuesday July the 14th the French frontier was thrown open. An explanation must here be given; this ending of Control does not mean that the Spanish Government can exercise its legal right to purchase arms, say, in France. It means that supposing an American tourist in Perpignan woke up to find six tanks and an artillery battery amongst his baggage, plus legal documents, he could ship them across the border without interfe-

rence from the Garde Mobile. Actually the sale of arms to Spain is still forbidden by the Plymouth Committee. Again, removal of control means that an innocent American tourist strolling round Beziers in search of old-fashioned beauty will not be put into prison in that interesting town, nor in Toulouse.

A NEW BASE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

This change certainly indicates that the section of the machinery of world war has reached a completer stage of development. Eden has announced that if a solution of the Control problem is not reached the British government will consider the policy of Non-Intervention to be at an end. In that case what will happen? Spain will be able to buy all the arms she needs, that much is certain, though there are difficulties which might remain. The Spanish army would obtain all the arms it needs, them. What would be the reply of International Fascism? Would Italy and Germany pour in fresh armies on an entirely new scale? And if so what would France do? Here are questions which no wise commentator would answer in a hasty fashion. So much depends on whether the fascist dictators are ready, in a strictly technical sense, for war. Again, Hitler and Mussolini may decide that diplomacy and the connivance of Eden could still aid them to adopt positions that would help them to wage war with greater chances of success.

However, it seems that there are no limits of hypocrisy to which Eden will not go. At present he is putting forward yet another version of Control in order to bring in Germany and Italy. He has proposed to grant belligerent rights to Franco. The French government has protested and there seems little chance of this proposal being accepted.

One thing is missing from this

brief survey of the war, the problem of international working class solidarity, that will be with in another article.

So much is clear, comrades, for every growth of strength inside Spain, the reactionary powers in Europe, give fresh aid to Franco. Viewed in this fashion, without rhetoric and without the utmost objectivity this much is mountain clear. The Spanish people and with them their helpers are fighting a world battle of peace versus war, and of progress towards a juster society.

BASHKIRIA TO PRODUCE OIL IN LARGE AMOUNTS

The recent discovery of a new oil field near the village of Tulumasa, situated 180 kilometers west of Ufa, is again attracting attention to the oil resources of Bashkiria.

It has now been ascertained that the poor work of the Bashkirian oil industry is the result of wrecking. Trotskyite wreckers moved oil prospecting from the most effective stations to those of secondary importance, retarded for years the prospecting of rich oil fields, and equipped bore holes with poor quality boring tubes and tools.

Marked progress has already been noted at Bashkirian oil fields this year, after the removal of wreckers and the appointment of a new administrative personnel. Prospecting has been organized, main attention being focused on drilling in the areas adjoining the Ishymbaev Industrial district which is one of the largest at present. Six basic oil fields within a 10 kilometers Radius of Ishymbaev are to be drilled this year. Prospecting drilling is to be continued, a railway, an oil pipeline and an oil refinery are available. The sections can be completely mastered much faster than the remote districts which had been the aim of the wreckers.

NOTE

The lack of materials for making photo-engraving clichés has delayed the issuing of this number. Several of our articles call for maps and illustrations.

To this date the situation has not been relieved. We will publish the maps in a future number

THE VOLUNTEER'S MEDAL

The Commissariat of the International Brigades has decided to produce a medal for all the Volunteers, to be kept as a souvenir of the Spanish war of liberation.

Carmelo VICENT, Joaquín CORRAL, José ORTELLA and Manuel PASCUAL all members of the U. G. T. Artists Union have supplied the

models here illustrated. All of these models have value. We thank the comrade artists for their contributions; but to help us in the task of choosing from amongst the four the medal to be struck, we ask all comrades to indicate their choicetous:

COMMISSARIAT OF THE I. B.—Calle VELAZQUEZ, 63.—MADRID

Me satisface haber contribuido con mi modesta aportación a este concurrido proyecto-homenaje, por tratarse de la columna Internacional, de heroica gesta

Joaquín Corral

Para la Columna Internacional vanguardia y estímulo de la juventud del mundo.

Carmelo Vicent

N.º 1



N.º 2



N.º 3



N.º 4





The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. I - N.º 9

Madrid, August 9 - 1937

AFTER THE SIERRA - WHAT?

When the "Nationalist" Army of Legionaires and Moors, supported by German and Italian artillery, aviation, and tanks; firing an abundance of machine-guns and bullets from the same countries and from reserve stocks of Portugal, elected to march on Madrid, it was obeying political rather than military impulses. It was more important to procure an unshakable political position in Spain as a whole than to take the points of most military value. Madrid was the key, Madrid is the key, to life or death for Fascism.

It is not to be wondered that the Fascists fell into a panic when the People's Army, having come a long year's road from the pistol-armed groups of July 1936 launched an offensive designed to clear the Madrid front. They poured planes and guns, bombs and munitions out of their war reserves, into the Madrid front, on an unparalleled scale. A conservative foreign correspondent recently told the writer that, in his opinion, there were four hundred and fifty rebel planes in the center area alone, and not less than one thousand in Spain!

The concentration of planes and artillery, by far the greatest seen in this war, must surely have been calculated to produce a Brihuega in reverse, a rout of the Government forces that would let the rebels through the Sierra line prevail-

ing at the beginning of the offensive. It failed completely; the second phase of the Sierra campaign ended with the Government still in possession of most of the territory captured in the first phase.

On July 18 the Fascists took over the initiative from the Government with violent counterattacks at Villanueva del Pardillo, and on the 18th, Quijorna and Brunete. A whole

day of fighting along the line extending from above Quijorna to below Brunete, netted them nothing but one hill position. From July 17 to 24, however, the People's troops in unfortified positions endured the most intensive, unceasing artillery and air bombardment they had ever experienced. Government artillery, overworked in the first days of the campaign, could reply but fee-

bly to rebel batteries which were in good condition, because, more numerous, they could alternate and thus avoid overheating. The government planes, superior but outnumbered, devoted almost full time to bombardment of aerodromes and supply centers, thus contributing much to the earlier exhaustion of rebel air and artillery munitions. Every base in Spain that could possibly serve as a rebel support to attacks on the Sierra was bombed once or more. The terrorist nature of Fascist air activities, on the other hand, was crudely underlined during this period by attacks on sleeping villages far outside the war area.

ATTACK AND COUNTER-THRUST

At last terrific bombardment told on tired, thirsty, and poorly entrenched troops. On July 24 the rebels recaptured Brunete and it was necessary, once they were there, to withdraw the 18th Army Corps to the west bank of the Guadarrama River. The retreat answered to normal mechanisms. Here, a unit suffered losses so heavy that it was bound to retire. There a unit scarcely under fire yielded to panic. But on the whole it was simply a logical and minimum withdrawal from difficult positions, with food and water troubles, after nearly three weeks of exhausting



MODESTO, Commander of the 5th Army Corps.

Continued on page 2.

AFTER THE SIERRA-WHAT?

campaigning, under fire comparable to that of the major battles of the Great War. Not only did the Government forces withdraw in good order to form a new line, but they had strength to counterattack.

The 11th and 14th Divisions reentered Brunete and fought for it street by street. They were eventually forced to retire, but had gained valuable time for the general withdrawal. The People's Army dug in on a line roughly east and west about half-way between Brunete and Villanueva de la Canada, keeping all the towns they had taken with the exception of Brunete.

On the night of July 25 Carlos Castejón brought down the first plane ever destroyed in night combat. It was a Junkers with American motors. Anti-air guns blew up another, and two Fiats were shot down in a fight. On the night of July 26, Rodriguez Mateu of the same night-flying squadron, duplicated the feat of Castejón. On July 27 the rebel counteroffensive had apparently burned out.

A COSTLY EFFORT

The tremendous concentration of Fascist war-materials on the Madrid front had enabled the rebels to halt the Government offensive and to counterattack. How costly an effort it was, we can begin to estimate once we realize that German-Italian war materials are not inexhaustible. The British military writer, Captain Liddell Hart, breaking through the haze of fantasy, measures air strength "in terms of first line aircraft—which represents the number of machines actually in service with formed units". He gives Germany 1,200 such craft at the beginning of 1937 and perhaps 1,500 by the spring of the year. Italy, with another 1,500 needs about a third of her strength in Eritrea, Soma-

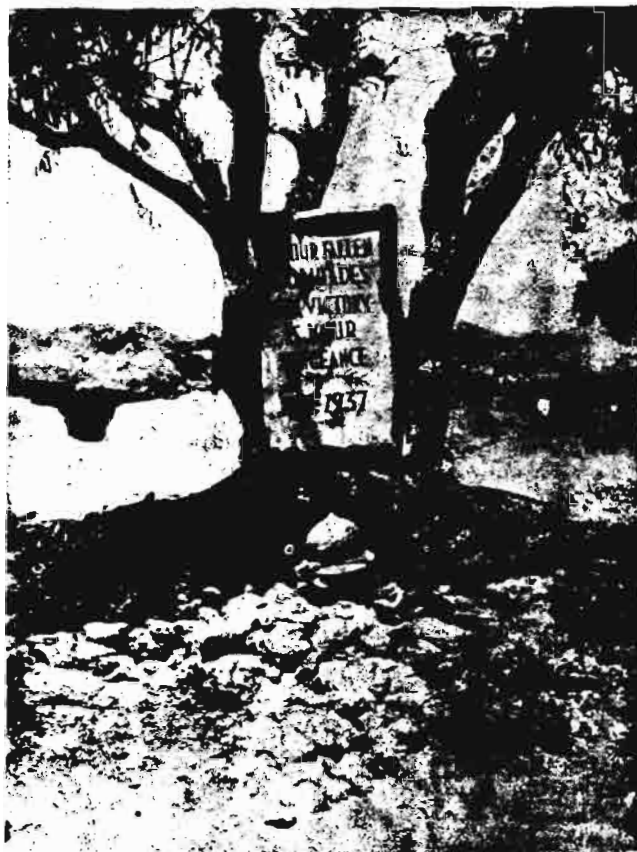
lia, Abyssinia, Libya and the Dodecanese. Thus two countries whose whole political life is that of preparation for and provocation of war, in a world situation where war is not too remote a possibility, placed very nearly a fifth of their best air forces on a single Spanish front to prevent disaster! When we reflect that trained personnel is a major time consumer for the building of front line air forces, we see that international Fascism is wasting away on the Madrid front.

REBELS LACK MEN

All observers agree that the Fascists had no infantry to follow up their terrific air and artillery preparation.—Here is the key to the second phase of the Sierra campaign, the rebel counterattack from July 18 to 26. In the first phase, the Government offensive (July 6-17) a number of strategic errors were made and various weaknesses of the People's Army revealed. However, in addition to demonstrating that the Army had attained a mobility and organization sufficient for all purposes, the offensive proved that the new recruits, incorporated in sound, well-officered units with good political guidance were good soldiers. It proved that the People's Army can, if need be, be built up to one million men. The counterattack revealed that the rebels have a chronic shortage of men.

The two phases and the two key factors combined to provide an epilogue to the campaign. A series of armed clashes broke out in rebel territory.

On the morning of July 29 a regular battle took place in Granada, during which the Clinical Hospital where Moors are barracked was heavily shelled. In Motril, thirty minutes of fighting took place on the beach. Rifles, machine-guns and hand-grenades were



employed. At Aguilar de Campo on the Santander front fifteen planes and a convoy of troops had to be sent to quiet a rebellion. A Ministry of Defense note reveals that at Motril and at Malaga, organized groups, "apparently formed by Communists" initiated attacks in the expectation of a Government drive in that direction.

RESERVES OF LOYAL ARMY

Not only have the rebels no manpower, but their only source is importation which aggravates the hostility of the population toward the Fascist regime. Eden may continue to abet the warmaking criminals, the Subcommittee may stay on vacation until autumn permitting Japan to make progress with her invasion of China, and Hitler and Mussolini to pour new troops and supplies into Spain. But the Spanish people with the aid

and solidarity of 180,000,000 Soviet citizens and of the workers and democrats of the whole world, has drawn the moral of the Sierra campaign and will know how to counter the new aggression.

The People's Front has reserves of power consisting of Spaniards IN REBEL AS WELL AS LOYAL TERRITORY. In loyal Spain, reserves of men must become reserves of soldiers by intensive training and technical equipment. The tremendous growth of Spanish war industry will speed this process. In rebel Spain, intensified guerrilla warfare, invented in Spain to drive out the Napoleonic invaders, will help drive out today's Fascist ones. To mobilize the people's reserves of manpower behind the rebel lines, the Government has the weapon of agitation and propaganda. There is the gun Hitler and Mussolini — and Eden — cannot match.

EXCHANGED LOYAL AVIATORS DESCRIBE TORTURES IN THE FASCIST PRISONS

Recently, through the medium of the International Red Cross, seven fascist flyers who were brought down in loyal territory were exchanged for seven loyal aviators in rebel prisons. The latter were captured after having been brought down on rebel ground. The seven fascist aviators were all foreigners.

Two of the loyal aviators held prisoners upon arrival at Hendaya recounted to the Spanish consul of that town an extraordinary story giving eloquent proof of barefaced Italian and German intervention in Spain. Italy and Germany not only promote the organizations of their secret police, but also keep contact with fascist prisoners, to the extent of assisting them to escape loyal territory, they revealed.

These two pilots fell into the hands of the enemy on November 2, in the province of Segovia. First they were locked up in the Jesuit Convent of Salamanca until December 16, and were victims of unusually cruel treatment. Frequently they were beaten with a bull's pizzle lined with wire, in attempts to obtain from them statements concerning airdromes, materials of aviation, and other information that the fascists desired.

On March 16, escorted by agents of the Gestapo, they were transferred to Astorga, from where, always under the custody of the Nazi police, they continued to Vigo. In this port they were embarked several days later on the ship "Rolandse", of the Bremen shipping list. They arrived at Hamburg on March 31.

While crossing the canal of Mancha, the aviators threw sealed bottles in the water in which they had enclosed scribbled notes giving their names, relating some of the tortures to which they were subjected, and stating that they were being taken from Spain as prisoners.

In Hamburg they were incarcerated in the cellar of one

of the Gestapo prisons and were kept there for six days on a diet of only one chunk of black bread and a herring. Several of the others had simply one potato each.

From Hamburg they were taken by railroad to Berlin. Two or three kilometres before arriving at the Berlin station, one of the prisoners took advantage of the train slowing up and jumped it; but the police agents immediately stopped the train and recaptured him. All were all placed in a dungeon headed by the Berlin Gestapo, where they were held for three months, being subjected to atrocious cruelty, exceeding that inflicted on them in the Spanish prisons.

On June 15, they were taken from Berlin to Rome in a German trimotor. On this trip they flew over Vienna, observing how the German trimo-

tor pilots were taking many movie films of Austrian territory. In Rome they were placed in the prison of the Fort of Gaeta, which is full of Italian soldiers who refuse to come to Spain to fight against the Republic.

At the end of a month, on July 16, they were removed from Rome, also by air, to Pollensa in the island of Mallorca. Passing over Corcega, the Italians that piloted the ship took many photos, and in their conversations they expressed the desire and ultimate ambition of Italy to wrest this island from France. From Pollensa, also by air, they were taken to Ceuta; from Ceuta to Cadiz, continuing the trip then to the Franco Spanish frontier.

Another of the exchanged aviators who was taken prisoner to Mallorca on May 31, has

stated before the Spanish consul at Hendaya that when he was brought down from the air he was suffering from an explosive bullet wound, and made his way over the hills to the edge of the sea where he intended to swim to Menorca; but 16 Italian soldiers pursued and captured him.

Those in charge of him at Palma were the heads of fascist aviation of Baleares, under the command of an Italian Lieutenant Colonel, three other Italian officers and a German.

On June 26, he was removed to the Castle of Bellver, where there are 160 political prisoners, among whom figure the director of the hospital at Palma, Dr. Penaranda; the heads of the Police and Telegraph of the same capital, and five officials of the Carabineros. In another prison nearby are 600 political prisoners and 1,500 in a concentration camp. The figures of those who have already been executed in Mallorca are estimated at more than 5,000.

Among other information they revealed is that each week there arrive at Palma two or three Italian cistern boats loaded with gasoline; that the principal Mallorcan exports, such as oranges and almond kernel, are all sent to Italy. In Mallorca bread, potatoes and other food necessities are scarce.

On July 16, in a sea-plane, this comrade was taken by air to Ceuta, then to Cadiz, then to Seville by automobile; from Seville to the jail at San Sebastian.

A private offer was made to each exchanged aviator to the effect that when they were liberated and restored to loyalist forces, that if they came over to the fascist side with a loyalist airplane they would be rewarded 200,000 francs.

In view of all this testimony, given by our exchanged aviators regarding the maltreatment, the torture and the suffering they were compelled to undergo, it can proudly be said that none of the fascist aviators returned by us can honestly make similar accusations against the Republic.

REMEMBER THIS

I've heard you sobbing in the night
And know your tears are not for fright
But for the dead. Those Comrades lost
Who through this day have fought beside you all this

[way

Beneath the sun's half blinding heat,
Until they fell upon this wheat, beside these olive trees.
In all this hell sound and thirst,
The whining steel and blinding burst of bomb and shell;
They still came on.

With blistered feet and shoulders bent,
With vagrant thoughts that often went to home and

[peace

And we must weep. For Oliver and Jack we could not

[keep,

Nor can we get them back.
I cannot say that they've been torn
To some far place and there reborn to live again;
But mark you this — they still live on — as men.
For we must take the strength they leave
And to the goal they set must cleave
With ever greater unity —
"All men shall now be FREE".

I hear you sobbing in the night,
But in the day remember this
That we are they.

WILLIAM P. SMITH Jr.
Lincoln Battalion.

WITH PICKS AND SHOVELS

The New Valencia to Madrid Railroad

Last winter, when the fascist forces, taking advantage of the then weak Spanish Popular Army, succeeded in pushing across all of Western Spain as far as the gates of Madrid, and also in cutting the last



railroad line connecting Madrid with the Mediterranean Coast, they thought that their game was won. It was then that, quite hurriedly, the fascist governments of Berlin, Rome and Lisbon recognized Franco and the Burgos crowd as the official government of Spain.

Among the fascist well-wishers there was certainty that the fall of the whole Madrid zone into the hands of Franco was only a matter of time, of a very short time.

When in February and March last the fascist offensives in the Guadalajara and Jarama regions took place, their expectation was that the two attacking armies would meet somewhere south east of Madrid, causing, of course, the capitulation of the city.

Somehow their plans fell through.

Guadalajara, which was to be their speediest advancing area, turned into a major defeat. The Jarama was crossed at one point, but the advancing armies were stopped at the edge of the ridge which runs from a point south of Vaciámadrid to San Martín de las Vegas. Since then the fascists have not advanced one inch.

HIGHWAY UNDER FIRE

But Madrid had lost its rail communications with the sea coast, and the Valencia highway, while not in fascist hands, was under their fire. A long detour for all traffic was and still is necessary. Quick communications with Valencia and other Eastern points had to be

established. On April 24, that is, a little more than three months ago, a group of engineers met to discuss the possibilities of building a new railroad to Valencia. Today the railroad is almost ready for operation. If it is not yet ready it is not because of lack of ability or of organization. It is because the comparatively primitive economy under which monarchical Spain was living never produced, or even thought of producing, the means by which life can be made efficient and comfortable. The building of a railroad in Spain is a job comparable, without exaggeration, with that of building a railroad in

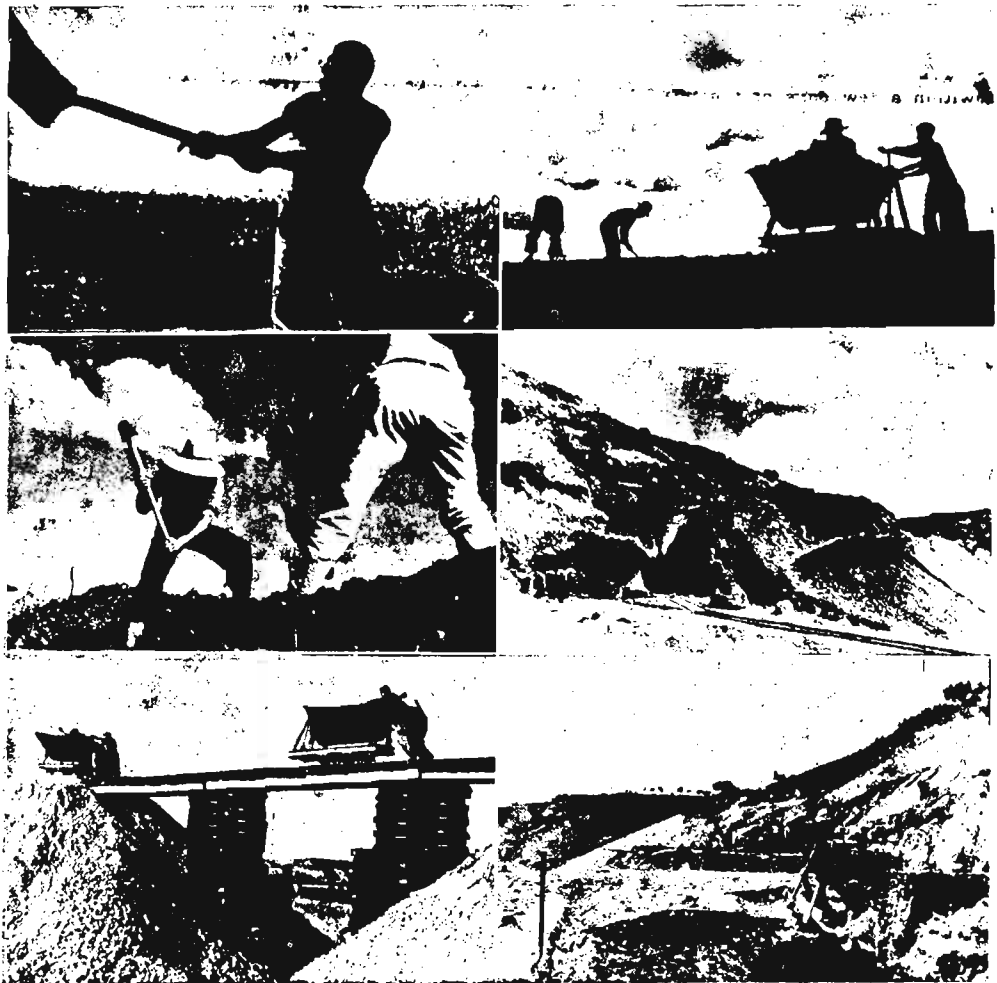
the 15th century. And within a fifteenth century economy not only a railroad is being built, but it is being built in record time.

Many problems will be solved through the construction of the line. Madrid, a city of a million people before the war, although a large number of inhabitants left during the tragic days of last November, is still a city of over a million. Refugees flocked in from many other points and took the place of those who had left. The feeding of the city, because of poor transportation facilities, was always a serious problem. And often during the worse days of shor-

tage, enemy agents of the fifth column worked hard, trying to create dissatisfaction. That the Madrilenos refused to listen to such suggestions and quite smilingly lived through the worse hardships imposed on them is a proof of their loyalty.

ROAD TO EASE TENSION

The railroad will ease the tension and satisfy many urgent needs. Another result will be that of transporting not only troops and food where they are needed, but also to carry men on leave. How many times men on leave, after



many months at the front, came to Madrid with permission for one or two weeks, and found it impossible to leave because of lack of transportation. There is also the problem of the evacuation of Madrid. How many times the authorities have urged the civilian population, especially the refugees from other parts of Spain, to leave this city for other centers less exposed to the



fascist rage? Until now, however this problem of evacuation remained a problem chiefly because of the lack of transportation. Now with the trains soon to arrive in Madrid they will be able to take their full load of refugees away from the ever present danger of bombardment.

"WORKING ON THE RAILROAD"

The railroad was started within a few days of the initial meeting of last April. Hurdling all the red tape often paralyzing the best enterprises because of the ever-present bureaucracy, men were hired, tools and materials secured and the ground was broken.

We are used in the United States or in any industrial country to visualize a railroad construction as a long series of steamshovels, excavators, dinghy locomotives, trucks, tractors, machinery of all kinds working quite effortlessly under the guidance of comparatively few men. Nothing of the kind here. All along the long, long line, ten thousand men work from morning till night under the broiling sun, using as tools only picks and shovels. A few mechanical drills are the only mechanical help they have. And these drills are so few and precious that their care is a work of affection.

4,000 MEN HIRED

At the beginning of the work four thousand men were

hired. The work however, given the complete lack of mechanical equipment, called for a much greater number of workers. At least twenty thousand more were needed. To speed the work of construction the management conducted a recruiting campaign in Madrid and along the whole railroad zone, much more than 100 kilometers long, asking for volunteers for the road. The response was immediate and large. More than 30,000 workers answered the call and

would all have been taken immediately had not a great shortage of picks and shovels presented itself. No matter how urgent and important the railway is, there are fortification and trench and highway works which cannot be made to wait. So that while ties and rails are ready to be put to work, lack of tools, often lack of water, are delaying the work.

Nevertheless the work proceeds. The plans were for a completion of the whole gi-

RADIO SEVILLE

Are you listening? Radio Seville!
This is Quilepo de Llano barking,
bellowing, spitting,
braying on four legs.
Radio Seville! — "Ladies and gentlemen!
At the microphone: a savior of Spain.
Long live wine! Long live vomit!
Tonight I take Malaga;
Monday I took Jerez;
Tuesday, Montilla and Cazalla;
Wednesday, Chinchón; and Thursday
drunk. And in the morning
all the stables of Madrid, all the stalls
made soft by the over-piling of horseshit
shall give me a soft bed.
Oh, what a delight to sleep,
to have for a pillow
(in hiccupping distance)
two piles of alfalfa!
What an honor to go to the blacksmith
at the sign of the halter!
What a unique pleasure
to receive on my hoofs,
nailed with spikes,
the horseshoes that France
won by his venture in Africa!
Already my leins are straining,
already my rump is lifting,
already my ears are growing,
already my teeth are getting larger.
The cinch grows short for me,
the reins get out of control.
I gallop, gallop... on my way:
I shall be in Madrid tomorrow.
Let the colleges close!
let the taverns open.
Down with universities
and institutes — down, down!
Let wine flow to meet
a liberator of Spain."
— Are you listening? Radio Seville!
The general of this military base,
a bleating fool,
Quilepo de Llano,
is signing off.

RAFAEL ALBERTI

LINCOLN BATTALION COMMISSAR

"Don't let 'em get Steve!"

This is the word that travels like a flash of lightning through the Lincoln - Washington Battalion lines before and during attack. Steve Nelson, Political Commissar of the Lincoln-Washington Battalion, tireless worker. At any minute of the night or day you can see him moving from trench to trench, always on the look-out for bad peepholes, poor sandbags, dangerous machine gun positions. Patiently explaining to groups of comrades news of the outside world and other fronts. Concerned with the opinion of every comrade in the battalion, whether it be a question of winning a battle or of buying a toothbrush. Steve epitomizes all that the Spanish Peoples' Army demands of a political commissar. In the attacks of July 6 to 9, when the Lincoln Battalion suffered a terrific loss of military leadership, Comrade Nelson without hesitation assumed command. Seventeen hours a day could be called a short day for Steve. Not a day passed without a visit from this indefatigable leader of men to brigade, machine-gun company, infantry, kitchen and armory, in addition to many bedside discussions with weary determined comrades. Now is not the time to tell in full the story of this comrade who is loved by his men. Suffice at this time to say of him: soldier, strategist, political leader and comrade.

gantic project in less than two months. If tools had not been diverted to other channels because of great emergencies, the 10,000 at work would have been joined by the 20,000 which are on the Union lists and ready to go to work.

The road will soon be finished. No date for its inauguration is set, but strenuous efforts are being made to rush it through. The road is called the Railroad of Victory. It is no exaggeration.

H. A.

THE PROBLEM IS "UNDER DISCUSSION"

A basis for discussion; the representatives must consult their Governments; the Sub-Committees will probably meet on Thursday; the Summer holidays—in short the labors of the Non-Intervention Committee, which would be ludicrous if there were not another side to the picture—the battlefield of Brunete and the hospitals of Madrid.

When Italy and Germany withdrew from the naval control they put forward certain demands: the recognition of Franco as a belligerent, the maintenance of control on land, and the suppression of the naval patrols. On July 9 this plan was rejected, though Grandi explained at some length that the soldiers of the Royal Italian Army could not be withdrawn from Spain because they were under the command of Franco. The British Government was entrusted with finding a compromise, and in due course Mr. Eden who has already produced so many questionable objects from his immaculate hat, presented the British proposals. In essence they granted the Fascist demands with two additions or amendments. The British Government suggested that the naval control should be replaced by observers in Spanish ports, and that the volunteers should be withdrawn.

This plan was proposed as a "basis for discussion", but those who made it could scarcely have imagined that it would provide more than a basis for disagreement.

It is a little difficult to steer a Non-Intervention Committee smoothly, when two of its members have seized the Canary Islands and are in effective control of Ceuta, Melilla and Mallorca, even though Mr. Eden can convince himself, in public at least, that they are neutral, in spite of Mussolini's declaration: "Italy is not neutral".

There are also one or two other discrepancies. Guns have been moved up to vantage points in the Pyrenees, and it is significant that they have some French towns within their range; and as that noto-

rious Bolshevik propagandist, Winston Churchill, pointed out on July 19, there are also guns in the neighbourhood of Algiers which seem to have some sort of relationship with Gibraltar. Germany has made a trade agreement with Franco to arrange for a supply of iron ore. Of course, we know that Germany needs iron badly to make boilers, tram-lines, etc.; nevertheless it is a little compromising. But Mr. Eden has proved equal to the task. The main object has been achieved. Everyone seems agreed that the discussion on the British proposals is likely to last a month or two. A "basis for discussion" is a fine thing for gaining time, and that is what the Fascists want.

The present position of the various Governments, according to a note published by the Sub-Committee, is as follows.

The Belgian, Czechoslovakian and Swedish Governments agree in principle to the British proposals, and consider that a substantial withdrawal of volunteers is an indispensable condition for granting belligerent rights.

The French Government accepts the plan and announces

that after control has been re-established and a substantial withdrawal of volunteers has taken place, the French Government will consent "to both sides being authorised to use the rights which international usage allows to belligerents".

The German reply insists on the granting of belligerent rights being linked with the withdrawal of volunteers. It also considers that control should be exercised on land, sea and air. The Italian Government accepts the plan as a whole. It nevertheless considers that the recognition of belligerent rights should be granted immediately.

"The Portuguese Government formulates many suggestions, the chief of which coincide with the observations of the German and Italian Governments."

The Soviet Government in its reply expresses itself very strongly on the subject of the rebels and doubts if the withdrawal of volunteers will ever be successfully carried out. Above all the Soviet Government rejects the suggestion that immediate negotiations be begun between the British Government and both the oppos-

ing sides in Spain on the question of granting belligerent rights.

With the exception of Maisky's splendid defence of the Republic, we have no reason to be pleased with the recent deliberations of the Non-Intervention Committee. France's gesture on July 13 has remained only a gesture, and the fact that French police have taken the place of international observers is not enough to fundamentally change the world situation.

There are other dangerous signs. Franco's agents are trying to raise a loan in London. In the House of Commons Eden has refused to give an undertaking that Parliament will be summoned in the event of the present discussions breaking down or of the question of recognising Franco as a belligerent arising.

In view of the close connections between Germany and Japan there seems little doubt that the Japanese attack on China has as one of its objects to attract the attention of the world away from the Spanish struggle, on the principle that it is more difficult to put out two fires than one.

Now, more than ever, is it possible to defeat fascism by the united action of the two great working-class internationalists; by the action of workers of all democratic countries in solidarity with democratic Spain; by the aid of the people of the U. R. S. R., without which, as Martinez Barrios, President of the Spanish Cortes, has said, "there would no longer be a Spanish Republic".

The Fascist insistence on the granting of belligerent rights to Franco is prompted by desperation, by the fact that internal difficulties beset Italy and Germany as a result of their enormous expenditure of arms, supplies and conscripted men for Franco's army. Realizing this, we can turn more than ever before to the Spanish people and to the international working class for the salvation of liberty.

A. M. E.

AMERICAN DELEGATION NOW TOURING SPAIN

Accompanying a thirty-two-ton shipment of supplies from the United States and Canada, a delegation of four American working class leaders and representatives has arrived in Spain and is now touring the different fronts and training camps where volunteers are stationed. The members of the delegation are: Max Bedacht, national secretary of the International Workers Order; Phil Bard, of the Friends of the Lincoln Battalion; Frank Mertens, of the National Maritime Union, and John P. Hautala, of the Finnish Workers Federation.

Although its primary purpose was to bring the large shipment, which contains soap,

cigarettes, chewing-gum, books etc., the delegation has other plans now. Chief among them are: (1) to find out what is most needed by American and Canadian volunteers in Spain and (2) to acquire first-hand facts about the situation here. Findings will be brought back to the many organizations, both in the United States and Canada, and used as the basis for further and increased appeals for aid to Spain.

Of the 32 tons of material, four tons were raised by the Canadian Friends of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion, an organization which has been growing rapidly in Canada since the formation of the battalion in Spain.

To the Youth of America

The following address, by Joseph P. Lash, national secretary of the American Student Union and a member of the National Council of the American Youth Congress, was delivered over Station EAR2, Madrid, on July 4, 1937.

★

Youth of America, friends of the American Youth Congress, my fellow-countrymen: One could aspire to no greater honor than this of bringing to you the salute of the heroic young Americans who are serving so valiantly, here in Spain the same cause for which many of you are met in Milwaukee — that of democracy, equality and peace. It is not false modesty which prompts me at the outset to declare that there are scores of young men in the American Battalions of the Spanish Peoples Army who have a better warrant for standing here at the microphone... We to whom democracy, equality, freedom are more than catchwords, but realities of human relations, to whom July 4th represents a day of significant progress for human society, are eternally indebted to these youthful compatriots. With their lives they are vindicating in Spain the United States of the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. Unquestionably, the victory of the Spanish Peoples Army will help to make those immortal documents more of realities in the United States. The young people of America already have a cause for pride in the number of young Americans who are here, fighting on the Spanish battlefields, which are

the battlefields of humanity.

But if you salute, as is appropriate on July 4th, your fellow-Americans here, you should at the same time salute the youth of Spain. What miracles of valor they have accomplished! It is true that practically the whole Spanish people have risen against the effort of international fascism to enslave them, but the young men and women of Spain have performed special prodigies of organization, discipline and bravery.

In the early days of the fascist insurrection, when bravery and bare fists alone slowed down the advance of the traitorous fascist generals, it was the young men, at the initiative of the Unified Socialist Youth organization, that organized the first disciplined regiment of soldiers — the famous Fifth Regiment — which was fit for something more than barricade defense. Their example of discipline, and loyal subordination to the Peoples Front Government was one of the seeds which now is flowering into the magnificent Spanish Peoples Army.

In the little village where we have been training it is time to harvest the wheat and lentil fields. But all the able-bodied men are at the front. The young people, therefore, have organized shockbrigades: of boys who are not old enough to enter the army, and girls who every morning at 5:30 pile into trucks and go out into the fields to help the peasants bring in their harvests. It is no wonder that under the Peoples Front, the ties bet-

(Continued on page 8.)



LINA ODENA, Youthful political commissar killed on the Granada front.

ON THE NEW U. G. T. - C. N. T. PACT

The Executive Committee of the U. G. T. and the National Committee of the C. N. T. this week announced the signing of a unity pact between the two trade union federations. The agreement is largely concerned with creating a better feeling between members of the two organizations.

To this end provision is made for eliminating all types of coercion in recruiting members for either organization; it is forbidden to admit a member to one trade union center who has been expelled from the other; trade unions dropped from the U. G. T. cannot be admitted to the C. N. T. without consulting the latter, and vice versa.

A large part of the press including many organs of the U. G. T. criticize the agreement as incomplete or even empty. "Mundo Obrero" offers the most succinct argument. Unity of action between the two trade unions, says the Communist organ, is primarily needed "to achieve increased production; a system of intensive work in factories, shops and fields; an improvement in the principle 'a better wage for more and better work'; and always, of course, to collaborate with the Government in the latter's function of directing and coordinating industry. The Executive of the U.

G. T. and the National Committee of the C. N. T. in the pact they have just signed, completely omit the problems of war and production. For the pact there is no war, nor production, nor betterment for the workers... The pact does not say one word on these problems which are the fundamental ones for the people and the workers".

A second feature of the unity pact as drawn up by the U. G. T. Executive and the C. N. T. National Committee, is that it denies trade union legitimacy to any organization not affiliated to the C. N. T. or U. G. T. Thus while eliminating coercion as between the two bodies, a joint coercion as against unaffiliated bodies is established as a very principle of unity. It is not at all difficult to discover that this point is aimed at Provincial Peasant Federations such as that of Valencia, whose 80,000 members are organized to increase production while protecting themselves against "revolutionary" experimenters. Press criticism objects to this method of "outlawing" as delaying the merger of the Peasant Federations with other unions of farmworkers.

It is further pointed out that the Executive Committee of the U. G. T. must submit the pact to the National Committee before the U. G. T. can be said to have authorized it. It will be recalled that the National Committee completely disavowed the political line of the Executive in connection with the last crisis.

The pros and the cons agree that the pact has a positive aspect opening the way to closer cooperation on a sound basis. It calls for the creation of local trade union liaison committees, or joint committees, which shall bring their problems to the National Liaison Committee. By rapidly creating such committees everywhere, and at once raising problems related with increased production, central direction, and economic improvement of the workers' conditions, workers who find the present pact a mere skeleton of unity of action, can fill it with the desired content.

NOTICE

Americans who are transferred from one hospital to another are urged, immediately after the change, to send word of their new addresses to the American Commissar, at the Service de Cadres of the International Brigades, Albacete, Spain.

TO THE YOUTH OF AMERICA

ween peasant and urban worker have become so cordial.

The Federal Union of Spanish Students, which is the equivalent of our National Student Federation of America, has mobilized those of its members who cannot go to the front into shock troops that work in the trenches, eradicating illiteracy. Indeed, wherever there is a particularly important task — volunteers for anti-tank units, helping organize the war industries, the setting of examples of disciplined subordination of political interests — it is the youth of Spain which comes forward. They are the most loyal supporters of the Peoples Front Government. They were the most ardent advocates of the unified military command. They have carried on an intensive propaganda for the development of an effective rear-guard war industry.

And if the young people of Spain have thus been among the promptest to mobilize for the war against international fascism, if they were among the first large groups to realize the immensity of the tasks confronting the government in winning this war, it was because they were united. Being united, they spoke for the masses of youth who knew from personal experience the situation in their country.

My friends, we know the value of unity, of working together in the United States. We know what it has enabled us to accomplish in our campaign for the American Youth Act, and what the United Student Peace Committee has done to mobilize the schools against war. But one never quite appreciates the full significance of unity until one faces an enemy machine-gun nest. One does not delay to argue political differences at such a moment. Teamwork is the essence of success at such a time. Here in Spain the unity of the younger generation has been a decisive factor in the barring of the road to Hitler and Mussolini. That unity is symbolized first of all by the Spanish Youth Front which is like our American Youth Congress, and

secondly by the Unified Socialist Youth which unites Socialists, Communists and all young people who recognize that socialism is the road to peace and progress. This organization was the first to declare that the major task at the present moment was unity against fascism and for democracy.

These two organizations are the spokesmen of Spain's younger generation, a generation which knows that the victory of Hitler and Mussolini means for them a continuance and intensification of degrading ignorance and illiteracy, mass unemployment, mass oppression and world war. Sometimes at noon I have sat outside a wealthy villa which is now a school, and have listened to the youthful tots, children of peasants, being taught to read and write in the first school that this village has seen. I have heard them sing NO PASARAN! And these words, uttered by these children, have brought to my mind, not soldiers being starved at the trenches of Madrid, but ignorance, disease, poverty, crime, which up to now have been the lot of Spanish youth. All the youth of every age are here united against fascism. We Americans need no other inspiration than the SALUD of a three-year-old youngster whom this Peoples Front Government now gives a chance to grow up as a decent human being, enjoying the fruits of his toil and developing his individual talents.

Side by side with the youth of Spain march the young foreign volunteers who form a splendid section of the Spanish Peoples Army. The poets of the future will sing their deeds. The future constitutions of nations will embody the ideals they symbolize. Not a body of freebooters, nor brutalized, but a body of highly-informed and determined men, who have realized that on the battlefields of Spain will the future of world peace and progress be determined.

No one outside of themselves will ever appreciate the hardships these men have uncomplainingly overcome alone

of the Spanish masses, or the tremendous readjustment they have had to make. I asked some young Americans what they wanted to say to you. Their first declaration was: "Tell them our army will lick Franco." Secondly, they said: "We hope our example has helped to strengthen the unity of American youth in behalf of the Spanish people." And thirdly: "We don't like to talk. The job of a good anti-fascist here is to be a good soldier."

Don't get the impression, however, that the life of the fellows here is circumscribed by their military objectives. I wish you could see our wall-papers in which steel workers write poetry and machinegunners analyze international political developments. Every scrap of literature is voraciously gobbled up. I wish you could hear our songs, which are not bloody diatribes, but full of longing for our homeland, full of determination that — I shall quote the exact words — "Every inch will we recapture, every inch of Spanish soil."

No one complains about the hard work. We only hope that you too will work for what is a common cause, even though at the moment fascist bombers are not above your heads. Here we keep vigil 24 hours of the day, standing in mud, in the blazing sun, in the rain. Surely you can give an hour of your day in defense of Spanish democracy which — I hope I need not repeat it — is the defense of world democracy.

You cannot realize what your support and your solidarity

mean to us. At the back of our heads the question is always simmering: Will Germany provoke another Almeria? Will Mussolini continue to land thousands of more troops? Will the fascists, infuriated by their check, turn gas loose on us? And we know that only the united forces of the common people throughout the world can prevent these things.

It has been good talking to you and making this appeal to you, especially on July 4th. It was in the struggle to overthrow English oppression that our declaration of Independence was forged. In this war of the Spanish people against enslavement by German and Italian fascism, a new charter of human rights is being molded.

Youth of America! We of the Lincoln and Washington Battalions — and now we can add the name of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion which is made up of both Canadians and Americans — love our country, love it in a way that is possible only to one who is far away from it. We came to Spain because we realized that to preserve the noble things of our country, the people of Spain must triumph over international fascism. We want to return, but we will only do so with victory. You can help that, and help speed our return. Protest the farce of Non Intervention. Send aid for the children of Spain. Send medical aid. Show us that our home-land realizes its kinship with a sorely-oppressed sister democracy. Salud!

J. P. L.

OUR WAR INDUSTRIES

The complete nationalization of all war industries was demanded by the Syndicate of Metal Workers at a 3-day session held in Madrid last week. Newly-elected President of the Syndicate, Comrade Miguel Gonzales Alonso, stated:

"Our firm insistence on nationalization of war industries must not weaken. Nationalization must not be delayed. The Republic, though a central organism, must have control of

these factories and be able to supply them with raw materials to be used to make the tools of war, so that we can send guns and ammunition in sufficient quantities to our comrades at the front.

"Today, more than ever, it is necessary to strengthen and increase the production of the Catalonian war factories. The nationalization of our industry constitutes our greatest aim and desire."



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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FASCISM WHISTLES IN THE DARK

Highly revealing, and of particular interest to us in Spain, is a series of articles and dispatches recently published in the American and British press. Although it is not necessary, at this late date, to cite the tremendous amount of open assistance given to Franco by Hitler and Mussolini, actual figures have so far been lacking. These figures are supplied by the British Daily Worker of July 29th:

"Mussolini has spent no less than 2,500,000,000 lire during the months from January to June on assisting General Franco", writes the Daily Worker's special correspondent. "In addition to this Italy has backed bills with which the rebels have purchased supplies and arms directly.

"This sensational figure, equivalent approximately to 26,300,000 pounds, was given, I am able to reveal, by the Duce's Finance Minister Paolo Thaon de Revel in a report to a special and secret meeting of the Finance Committee of the Italian Chamber a few weeks ago."

FASCISM'S "ADVENTURE"

Corroboration of this figure, and generally of the tremendous drainage of money and materials, as well as of men, which Italian Fascist intervention in Spain has meant, is contained in a wireless to the New York Times of July 4th by Arnaldo Cortesi, the paper's correspondent in Rome. Says Cortesi, whose status in relation to Mussolini is similar to

that of William Casney to Franco:

"If any one had been able to foresee in July, 1936, the developments of the Spanish civil war, it is doubtful whether



FRANCO

Italy would have rushed so light-heartedly into the adventure, the end of which is still not in sight. It seemed at the beginning that a few thousand volunteers and a few dozen airplanes would be sufficient to secure General Francisco Franco's victory..."

If any further proof were needed to show Mussolini's criminal invasion of Spain, Cortesi's dispatch — for the hundredth time — parades the cat, long since out of the bag, up and down the street. Furthermore, the date of the dispatch gibes perfectly with the Italian Finance Minister's report on the spent 2,500,000,000 lire, which (as the Daily Worker correspondent pointed out

on July 29th) was made "a few weeks ago".

Il Duce's unofficial American mouthpiece is unusually frank. Cortesi continues:

"...Italy found herself fully committed to support the insurgents in November last year when she recognized the Franco government, but thought at that time that the war would not last much longer, since everything led to the belief that the fall of Madrid, the siege of which had started less than a month before, was imminent."

Further: "Now the Italians find themselves up to their necks in the Spanish civil war, and they are beginning to look around for what they are likely to get from it when General Franco wins, as they think he will. The first advantage they hope to gain is purely negative, that they will avoid the loss of prestige they would suffer if the Valencia government triumphed despite fascism's best efforts."



COERING

The dispatch is concluded with a statement concerning the material gains hoped for by Mussolini: the vast mineral resources of Spain, and the strategic land concessions so necessary as military bases in the event of war.

GERMANY AND ENGLAND

The July issue of The Labour Monthly supplies the factual material necessary to an understanding of Germany's great stake in the invasion of Spain, and also provides the basic economic clue to British actions (Capt. Anthony Eden et al) in the Non-Intervention farce. Conrad Suden's article, "Anglo-German Interests in Spain", traces the complicated little-known network of Anglo-German capitalist connections in steel, chemical and armaments trusts, as well as in the international banking field, and concludes with the significant statement:

"The bonds between British and German capitalism in Spain do not account for the whole policy of British imperialism in its betrayal of democracy, its alliance with fascism; they do, however, constitute a factor of which the great importance is often overlooked."

DWINDLING RESOURCES

It is no wonder then, with Italy and Germany (and Portugal as well) so deeply sunk in their rapacious game in Spain (despite the diplomatic and material aid rendered by

British capitalism) that the fascists of all lands are beginning to whistle in the dark to keep up their dwindling courage. There is no need to speak of the critical condition in which the people of Germany find themselves, nor of the widespread misery of the Italian people aggravated not only by Mussolini's tremendous expenditures in Spain but also by his equally enormous losses in Ethiopia, which even to this day is not completely "pacified". Privation for the masses inevitably breeds opposition to the government, and it is for this reason that the fascists are forced to extend their stream of hopeful propaganda, at the same time that they are forced to admit the extent to which the "Spanish adventure" has drained their treasures and their manpower.

An unusual example of this "whistling in the dark" appears in the July 26th issue of the notoriously profascist London Daily Mail. Hopefully entitled "Ridding Spain of the Reds", it also calls attention to the "Italian's Big Part" in the dirty work. A few quotations will suffice to reveal the tone and temper of this article:

"When General Franco began the movement to rid Spain of the Reds there were many who wished him well but shook their heads doubtfully. True it is that Italy... responded promptly to the common unity and cause. Her aeroplanes flew men across the straits to make Seville secure when Quilepo de Llano in that city was driven to every subterfuge to make his handful of troops look like an army..."

FAILURE AT MADRID

"It (Madrid) was theirs (the fascists) had they not turned off the main Seville-Madrid road to succour the heroes of the Alcazar at Toledo. That deviation gave the Reds just the amount of breathing space necessary for them to turn Madrid into a network of redoubts and fortresses.

"People who point out that Madrid is still not captured nevertheless know that in the meantime Franco has built up, with the assistance of German and Italian material and vo-



lunteers, an army which has saved more than half of Spain for ever from the menace of Bolshevism.

"I have spoken", says the Daily Mail's correspondent, who, we are informed, has "lately returned" from Spain, "with many highly-placed Italians, and I know that from the generals down to the privates they all individually and without pressure expressed their anxiety to come to Spain". Note that the information comes from "highly-placed Italians".

"Italy has played a significant part in building the new Spain — so significant that it has been insisted that she must be getting territorial concessions like the Balearic Islands to compensate her. The answer is that Italy's compensation consists of an ordinary war debt for materials and munitions such as the one we incurred with the United States during the World War"

There follows, at this point, one of the most brazen bits of

tongue-in-cheek writing which we have ever read:

"It is recognized by those who know the facts that Italy has throughout been inspired by the highest motives. She asked nothing more than to see Spain go from strength to strength, her territory having been freed from the common enemy, Bolshevism. Thus (and here we are permitted a glimpse of Fascist modesty), though the Italian troops played a very important part in the capture of Bilbao, and though they could have been the first to enter the town, their commanders preferred to remain out of the limelight until the Spanish army had come into its own."

All of this constitutes an imposing array of admissions, "out of their own mouths", of the fascists' role in Spain. Yet the articles cited were chosen at random out of a mass of similar material now appearing in the English-speaking press. Weighing every statement carefully, there can no longer be any doubt whatever of (1) the enormous aid fascism has given to the traitorous generals, and (2) that this aid has drained the fascist powers to so considerable a degree that they must now institute a campaign of self-induced cheerfulness, of "whistling in the dark" to keep their spirits up, to hide from the world their moral and material degradation and to stave off, for as long as possible, their inevitable defeat both by their own inner structural weaknesses and by the growing strength of the revitalized Peoples Army of the Spanish Republic.

PLUGGING FOR "BUTTS" BACK HOME

To the American Boys Who Do their Bit to Make Madrid the Tomb of Fascism:

We, the C. P. and Y. C. L. unit of the Altro Shop, send a concrete message of solidarity in the name of the workers of our shop. We hope that our story of how the workers here thankfully contributed cigarettes to ease the strained nerves of our Lincoln Battalion may result in a personal reply.

Through our shop paper, we put in our first plug for "butts". During collections for the paper a young Catholic worker said to a comrade, "let me be the first to give a pack of 'Butts' to the boys of the Lincoln Battalion".



A united front was formed between us and the workers of different political opinions. They joined with us, and the workers were able to get at people who wouldn't or couldn't contribute to us.

It is pleasant to relate some highlights of the campaign in order to show the unity and solidarity on the heartfelt sympathies that all the workers here feel toward Spain and our boys. A young worker claimed that she couldn't afford to contribute — a week later she brought in a pack saying, "My conscience bothers me". The manager and foreman contributed saying "this is something about which we all feel the same". This is an instance of how people here have their minds and hearts in our struggle for you in the front lines, defending world democracy. May you carry on as gloriously as you have in the past and soon say "Pasaremos!"

COMRADELY YOURS,

Altro Shop Unit
1461 Hoe Avenue, C. P.,
5th A. D., Bronx, N. Y.

SAYS BARNACLE BILL

Said the ship owner, haughty and fat,
As he wiped off the top of his hat:

"It's very upsetting

"When sea-gulls are getting

"Class-conscious enough to do that!"

★

The nine Supreme Judges are blushing.

When Washington's plumber came rushing,

He looked at the court

And then made the report:

"Only one thing is wrong; it needs flushing."

MICHAEL QUIN

THE PLOT THAT FAILED

The whole world was surprised last June by a startling bit of news, ingeniously served up for public consumption. According to the dispatches from Berlin a Loyalist Spanish submarine had attempted to sink a German cruiser, the "Leipzig". The news had the unmistakable ring of a cooked-up plot, and the press everywhere, while giving its usual hospitality to the news, added some very skeptical comments. So the plot failed miserably. The "casus belli" so badly wanted petered out completely.

Now a German working on the "Leipzig" at the time of the "torpedoing" has exposed the whole frame-up to the press.

"Three days before leaving for Mediterranean waters (says the seaman) all the submarine detectors were closely inspected, and all those found even slightly below the highest standards changed... Before leaving, the captain, Von Loe-wisch, made a very strange speech to the crew. He told them: "Our mission is very difficult. The eyes of all the nations are upon us". That was all. The day the cruiser left a group of eleven persons came

aboard. They were completely unknown to the rest of the crew, with the exception of the captain. While steaming towards the Mediterranean, one ammunition store-room was completely emptied.

ITALIAN OFFICERS

"The ship was then visited by Italian and Spanish Fascist navy officers who made detailed inspections, especially of the compartment from which ammunition had been removed. Several secret meetings were held with the foreign officers and the group of eleven unknowns. The sound detectors were once more inspected, as well as the armored plate. The crew was convinced that the purpose of the inspections was to find a way of torpedoing the boat without danger of sinking it.

"The result of the inspection must have been negative, because soon after the "inspectors" left for the "Meteor", which had brought them to the "Leipzig", all the removed ammunition was returned to its original place.

"All these maneuvers took place on June 10th and 11th. The "Meteor" escorted the

"Leipzig" until the 21st. During June 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th, days when the attempted torpedoing was supposed to have taken place, nothing unusual happened on board, and no special precautions were taken. Everything was quite normal. The first thing that the crew heard about what was later to become known to them as the attempted sinking, was shortly before the ship entered the port of Wilhelmshaven. The captain told them that the ship had been attacked by a Bolshevik submarine. Officially only twelve people on the ship knew of the attempt, the eleven unknowns and the captain.

"As for the eleven strange guests of the cruiser, six of them were left on shore in Spain and taken to Berlin by plane, where they remained under strict watch. On June 19th, five more followed them and were quartered in Templhof and kept incommunicado.

"The crew is normally given two weeks' leave after such a trip. This time only five of the crew were given leave. They were all, significantly, rabid fascists. Even they, however, were given leave for only two



— When did Franco say he was going to enter Madrid?
— Oh, that was long before your time.

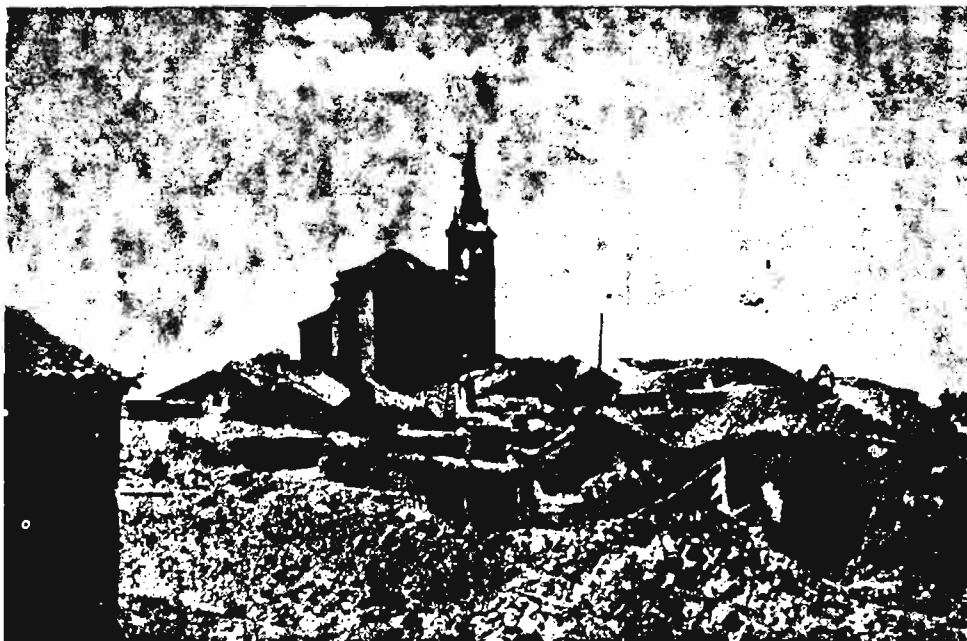
days, and under condition that they would go no further than twenty kilometers from the port. Communication with their families was prohibited both to them and to the remainder of the crew, and all mail was held up."

The above is a condensed copy of the official report. From the account, two things are evident: (1) The "torpedoing" did not take place only because the inspecting officers did not think that it could be carried out with safety, and (2) Germany will not stop at anything in causing a war of open invasion, regardless of the consequences.

More Poumists nabbed as spies

Ten more spies connected with the Trotskyite P. O. U. M. have been arrested and the police have placed them in the custody of the High Spy and Traitors Tribunal of the Spanish Government.

Documents revealing secret written and telegraphic codes have been seized. Papers referring to the underground traffic of arms have also been discovered. Among them are letters of communication with outside elements, exposing connections with Tittler's secret police. Evidence now in the hands of the government brings out the leading part these spies played in the May Catalonian uprising. In all, approximately 300 arrests of Poumists have taken place, of which many have been turned over to the Espionage and Treason Court.



QUIJORNA.—After the Battle.

THE MOTOR FRONT

The Transport Regiment in Prose, Poetry and Pictures

Four fellows are playing cards. Several are reading the newspapers and newly-arrived letters, others are discussing political or other news. All are in the canteen of the First Transport Regiment. A motorcycle is heard. A moment later the bell sounds its chimes. "We Roll — Assembly", shout several. The Americans of the second squadron fall in, right dress and stand at attention.

"Rolling Orders. Gas masks, helmets, canteens. All trucks up to the gate immediately", orders Lieutenant Clark. "Dismissed". The fellows vie with each other to be the first in line. There's a dash for equipment, motors roar, and the trucks start for the gate.

squadron for his work. Whether it is wine, foodstuffs, ammunition or troops that they haul, the job is conscientiously and efficiently executed. Two hours after Brunete was taken, the squadron of trucks was transporting captured prisoners and grain behind our lines. They lay outside of Quijorna for three hours waiting for the town to be taken to deliver fortification material and food supplies. ("An army travels on its stomach"). They carried shells to artillery camps. They fed the troops, the cannons, and the rifles and sometimes carried wounded to the hospitals.

Braving aviation bombardment, consistent shelling and



vigilance. The roads are narrow and many chauffeurs are just learning. He never has the satisfaction of striking a personal blow against a fascist, never finds adequate relief for the hatred fascism

has welled up in him. Weaving his way through shells, ducking bombs, solitary, steadily, unflinchingly, and determinedly he delivers his load to the destination. Perhaps sometimes singing his song.



THE TRANSPORT REGIMENT (above) goes Hollywood in a big way.
Above right. The boys proudly exhibit shrapnel that failed to get them.

"Where to", shout one or two. "Quien sabe", shout several in their newly acquired Spanish. And then the motor caravan begins.

In the recently bygone offensive, the Second Squadron of the First Transport Regiment attached to the Fifth Army Corps of the Spanish Army played its part well. It was the Colonel of the Escorial Intendencia who said that he wanted members of the second

strafing, they carried on their work. One comrade wounded by shrapnel, another struck directly by a bomb and a third missing testify to the risks.

The work is physically and mentally a strain. Sometimes the driver keeps going for thirty-six and forty-eight hours, with short catnaps in his seat. He is responsible for his truck and for its load. Driving in Spain demands the utmost caution and consistent

ELEGY (Ten Kilometers After Gray)

The curfew tells the knell of parting day,
A motley bunch of yaks retires to bed
Or else to shoot the crap, as they would say,
Or ponder on their day's misdeeds instead.

Off' have I wandered near some bracken-covered bower
And listened to the tales of do or die,
Then wondered how the fascists hold the power
To stand against the might of you and I.

But suddenly a sullen voice is heard
Echoing through the darkness of the night:
The hooting owl has nothing on this bird
Whose oft-repeated cry is, "Douse that Light!"

A village Hampden might have argued here,
Or possibly the plowman would have kicked.
We realize enough these things to bear,
A deathly silence reigns; we knew we're licked.

Full many a gem of wit that's smartly said
Is squeaked beneath the timbre of that voice.
Full many a flowery adjective profane
Is muffled in the covers of the bed.

A few short hours they sleep the sleep of man,
Slumbering in the attitudes they like.
Then crashing roar of thunder awakens them,
Not fascist bombs — It's just the voice of Mike!
The station of a god does he enjoy,
The heavens tremble when he shouts, "CONVOY!"

ERNIE PARLOUR
First Transport Regiment
Second Squadron.

CHINA - ANOTHER SPAIN

"Last year our country concluded an agreement with Germany against the Comintern. Our Government is undertaking action to give effect to this agreement." Hirota.

"China is a peaceful country and we have constantly tried to settle our differences with Japan through diplomatic channels. We are a weak nation, but if we are brought to bay we will defend our right to a national existence to the last gasp." Chiang Kai Shek.

The Japanese began their latest adventure in China in a spirit of optimism. "we will clean up Northern China... The campaign will last a month if conditions are favorable, two months if the Chinese resist", is how a spokesman of the Japanese Army gave his view of the situation. There is reason to believe that this optimism has now become a little tarnished. The Japanese have found that they are no longer attacking the China of the Manchuria and Jehol days—a country which was torn by civil war and unable to make a united resistance against the invader. The insistent demand of the Chinese people and the wise policy of the Chinese Soviet Government have brought into being a new China, far more united, far more able and determined to defend itself against the Fascist imperialists. For the first time the Chinese will be able to fight as a nation under a national leadership which has clearly and unambiguously given the order to resist. It is true that the Nanking Government has as yet concluded no formal agreement with the Chinese Soviets nor the Kuomintang with the Communist Party. It is also true that there are still men, holding important positions in China, who will be prepared to commit any treason to further their personal ends. But there are indications that this time the mass of the Chinese people is more aware than ever before of what is at stake, and will be able to sweep from its path

BUT THIS TIME JAPAN FACES UNIFIED CHINESE RESISTANCE

traitors and those who work against national unity in the face of the enemy.

PREPARATIONS RAPID

The Nanking Government has demanded the speeding up of preparations for defence and for putting the army on a war footing. It has decreed conscription and mobilisation on a wide scale.

The soldiers of the 29th Army declared that they would not accept foreign orders to withdraw from the Hopei region, and they disobeyed the orders of their own leaders to retire. When the Civil Guards at Tung Cheou learned that their leader had betrayed them, they mutinied and killed the Japanese.

At Swatow the authorities have ordered every family to prepare a reserve supply of food and water, and to collect five bags of sand for the defence. Employees in Japanese concerns have come out on strike. The movement for boycotting Japanese goods is spreading. At Canton and other places the workers have taken the decision not to load Japanese ships.

Unity in China is being realised in the northward march

of the columns of the National Chinese Army which is to be joined by strong contingents from the Chinese Red Army, which has held its own during ten years fighting against heavy odds. And in addition, the Chinese have the certainty that they will be supported by thousands of partisan fighters in the Japanese rear.

OTHER ASPECTS

But if these things are new, there are other aspects of the conflict with which we are already all too familiar.

Between the aims and methods of Fascists in the East and in the West there is a close similarity. On July 25th the Japanese ambassador at Paris declared smilingly: "Japan is not so stupid as to want to make war on China". The aggressor countries no longer formally declare war. They begin with a mixture of provocations, negotiations and hostilities, or they intervene to support a rising they have fomented.

The Japanese have shown that the Germans and Italians have not the monopoly in the art of bombing and machine-gunning civilian populations, and they have already staged their own version of Badajoz.

EXCUSES FOR AGGRESSION

The aims which Japanese Fascism is hoping to carry out in China bear a close resemblance to those of the German and Italian fascists in Spain. Fascist propagandists, and also honest people who have been misled, paint a tragic picture of a vast population packed into some small islands and desperately needing space to live. But Japan has already detached great areas from China and these areas have not been colonised by Japanese workers and peasants but by textile manufacturers, munition makers, bankers and soldiers—individuals whose business it is to enslave the Chinese.

The immediate purpose of Japan is to submit Northern China, with its population of 80,000,000 inhabitants, to the same fate as Manchuria—not to settle Japanese colonists, but to secure raw materials, a market for Japanese goods and cheap labor, and as a step towards the complete conquest of China. Moreover the Japanese want to make their rear safe for an eventual war with the Soviet Union, for it would be madness for Japan to attack the Soviet Union until a very considerable part of China is completely under her control.

DOUBLE PURPOSE

The war has a double purpose. On the one hand it is intended to help Japan's ally, Germany, to wring more concessions from the British Government with regard to Spain, and on the other hand it is required by Japan as a trump card in the unsavoury game which she is playing with Britain for the division of China into spheres of influence. Japan, encouraged by the weakness which the Western powers have shown with regard to Spain, has drawn the conclusion that the surest way to come to terms with the British Government is to confront it with an accomplished fact; and Eden's



VILLANUEVA DE LA CAÑADA

CHINA - ANOTHER SPAIN

statement on July 19th gives the impression that Britain is not prepared to put any serious opposition in the way of the Japanese plans, in spite of the uneasiness of the U. S. A. For although Britain has valuable interests in China which would be seriously endangered by a Japanese success, she also has valuable interests in India which would also be threatened if the Chinese gave a victorious example of how to deal with imperialism.

Like her European allies, Japan is attempting to cover her aggression with an Anti-Bolshevik veil as well as by the "civilising" mission for which all Fascists feel such a strong vocation. Prince Konoyé describes the aim of Japanese foreign policy as being "the stabilisation of Eastern Asia, which can only be assured by co-operation between Japan, Manchuria and China to stop Communist penetration via Outer Mongolia". Such co-operation would suit Japan's purpose admirably. It would provide her with unlimited scope for intervention and would make the unification and centralisation of the movement for the national liberation of China quite impossible.

BREEDING MORE AGGRESSION

Nor would Japan be satisfied with Northern China. The conquest of the North would be followed by an advance towards the Centre, and after Peiping would come Nanking. Swatow and Shanghai would be attacked, and then an attack would possibly follow on the Mongolian People's Republic, with all the consequences that this would involve.

Japan is heavily committed to this venture. In four weeks it has cost her 517 million yen. The price of foodstuffs is rising, and a very difficult financial situation confronts the military Fascist clique who badly need a rapid victory which might start a new wave of jingoism and save them from a rising of the people.

CHINA RESISTS

China was never so prepared as now to resist the invaders.

The people know the danger and are ready to fight against it as a nation. Chiang Kai Shek has declared that the Nanking Government realises what is at stake and will fight if needs be to the finish:

"If we ask for peace once hos-

tilities have been begun, conditions would be imposed on us which would be equivalent to the enslavement and destruction of China.

"We must realise that if we hesitate and allow ourselves to be deceived by the hope of temporary security we are lost."

In a message to the Spanish people, the President of the Chinese Soviet Government declared:

"We know that your victory will help us in our struggle against Fascism. Your cause is ours."

We send back that message to the Chinese people.

A. M. E.

PROPAGANDA BEHIND ENEMY LINES A Task for Our Political Commissars

The results of our propaganda amongst the enemy troops are constantly increasing, which is evidence that the living conditions in enemy territory are continually getting worse, and that our military successes are having the effect of pushing both the civilian population and the soldiers to rebellion against the fascist oppression.

The mutinies of Granada, Motril, Aguilar del Campo (Santander) are but a confirmation of our assertions. The increasing desertions to our lines are still another evidence. All of these events do not occur spontaneously. They are the result of our work, of all our work, behind the enemy lines.

We have the report of Comrade Vittori, of our 15th International Brigade. Here is what he writes, under the title:

"WORK IN THE ENEMY LINES"

"We speak every night to the enemy, using a microphone and a loud speaker. This work is carried on in a strictly-organized manner, and no one is permitted to speak without the control of the Battalion Commissar. The subjects for these speeches are the following:

"1. Reading of the War Bulletin.

"2. Why we fight.

"3. What happens within our lines, compared to what happens within theirs.

"4. Why Hitler and Mussolini send troops to Spain.

"5. That we shall inevita-

bly win against the enemy army.

"6. Crimes committed by the invading troops which came to help Franco.

"7. How we treat our prisoners.

"8. Advice on how to weaken the fascist army.

"These and a number of other, similar subjects have been part of the work which has been followed systematically by the men of our Brigade for many weeks. Here are the results.

"On July 15th a soldier from the rebel camp came over to us. On the 23rd two more came over to us with rifles and grenades. During the night of August 1st 23 soldiers, among whom were a corporal and a non-commissioned officer, came over to us carrying eleven rifles, a sub-machinegun and cartridges."

PROPAGANDA EFFECTIVE

As you see, the results are important.

According to statements made by the deserters, our propaganda has made a powerful impression upon the enemy troops; it has in many cases demoralized them; it has awakened their anti-fascist sentiments, and thus deprived Franco of some of his troops.

The deserters affirm that the enemy is considerably demoralized and that, were it not for the extreme difficulties involved, there would be desertions daily.

Such results as these prove

that we must increase the intensity of our work.

One of the 23 deserters said to our comrades: "If we could have communicated with each other, not only could we have organized the escape, but we could have caused the desertion of whole companies."

Here is a problem us to solve: how to organize our work behind the enemy lines, not only for the purpose of causing desertions but also for the organization of attacks against the enemy positions.

DIFFICULT AND DELICATE

It is evident that, had we been able to communicate with the courageous soldiers who deserted to our lines, we could have organized a real surprise which might have brought us great results.

I know that the problem is a difficult and also a very delicate one, but it is one which must be faced by our Comrades and by our Commissars.

The morale of the enemy is so low that we must take advantage of it by an audacious plan and not merely through simple propaganda.

Loudspeakers to every front!

On all fronts we must carry on systematic work in the enemy lines.

On all fronts must we study carefully the possibilities of disintegrating the enemy forces and of attracting them to our side.

Here, I repeat, is one of the most important tasks for our Commissars and our soldiers.

LUIGI GALLO

LETTERS from HOME

With this issue we are creating a new department, a department whose continued life depends on our readers. Whenever possible we shall publish letters from home — from friends, parents, wives, brothers — to American, English and Canadian volunteers in Spain. Needless to say, no names will be used. We urge all our readers to help build this department by sending their letters or copies of letters to the Editor.

★

"Dear L...:

I received your last letter last week, but since then I have read how you were wounded; and believe me that I am very proud of you and hope that you weren't seriously hurt. We all know that your efforts to fight for liberty and against fascism will not be in vain.

We over here, my son, are trying in our own way to assist in the fight for liberty-loving Spain, although our efforts are feeble compared with your risking your life in this fight for the oppressed.

Don't worry about us here. We are getting along fine. We are all in good health and I'm being helped financially by your brothers and sister. It is you that we are all concerned about. If there is anything you require that is in our power to give please let us know and we

will do our utmost to see that you get it... I hope this letter finds you in good spirit and sufficiently recovered so that you may answer immediately. With love from all, and especially from.

Your proud Father, J...
Brooklyn, N. Y. July 11, 1937."

★

"Dear Blacky and Comrades:

Was mighty glad to hear that you arrived at your destination and are now in har-



ness... As for the section here, we have been moving fast. We won a great victory in the

ONE MUST BE BLIND

One must be blind,
must have, as though placed in his eyes, splinters of
[glass,
quickslime,
burning sand,
not to see the light emanating from our deeds,
illuminating our tongues from within,
our every word.

One must wish to die without a testament of glory
[and happiness,
without participation in future hymns,
ignored by the judges of the sombre past.

One must wish, while still alive, to be of the past,
a bloody hindrance,
a dead thing,
a dry oblivion.

RAFAEL ALBERTI



HENRI THE V8

expected. Maritime Federation is also now balloting on same. Return from Sailors Union on C. I. O. went *ten to one* for C. I. O. Puget Sound council officers are trying to sabotage vote on C. I. O. by not sending out ballots to membership, but the rank and file is demanding ballots and will not be sabotaged.

The Blagin Mill had a two-day strike over wage raises, which was won hands down. R. N. sure took it hard about his defeat; the reactionaries came out with a big red-baiting scare just before the election, but it only helped win for us.

We had an Aid for Spain drive two weeks ago and raised 125 dollars and also a large truckload of clothes. Soon we will start another drive and make a big cleanup to send cigarettes, send cigarettes, send cigarettes and more cigarettes, and a hell of a lot of other things to you boys. You can expect a lot of the other boys here to join you soon.

With revolutionary greetings, W...

Aberdeen, Wash. June 27, 1937."

★

Remember: if you have any letters you think would be of general interest, send them along to The Volunteer, S. R. I. Plaza del Altozano, 63, E, Albacete.

NATIONAL MARITIME UNION GREET'S SEAMEN IN SPAIN

The following cablegram has just been received here:

"N. M. U. CONVENTION GREET'S OUR BROTHERS FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY STOP YOU HAVE OUR COMPLETE SUPPORT. — JOE CURRAN CHAIRMAN, THOMAS RAY, SECRETARY."

local union elections: we elected X for president, Y for recording secretary and Z as loggers' business agent. We've also been doing a good job of getting new members and collecting another bunch of buddies for you comrades. I myself am out of the running regarding that, as H. is soon going to Seattle to reinforce J., and the section decided that I am to replace him here. This will take place within the next two weeks. I sure will have to get in and dig harder than ever before to keep the section going as well as H. has, but I will give you comrades my proletarian oath that, with the help of the rest of the boys, I will do it or go down trying.

Your brother, Red, and the C. boys are all working at Saginaw, and I am working at Polson 5. Much interest was shown by all the boys when news got out that you had left; the P. I. even gave it a write-up, no fooling. We will soon give an affair to raise funds for you boys, and it will go over big.

A two-day strike at Polson was won pronto. The Western camp has been shut down since you left as the cedar market went blooey, but all others are running strong. All locals are voting on the C. I. O. question, results to be known soon, and a favorable vote is

ON THE NATIONALIZATION OF INDUSTRY

THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN MADRID

Serious threats to internal peace, plotted by elements having a childish conception of war and of social revolution, and by tools of fascism attempting to agitate the masses with the slogans and deceptions indicated by Trotzky, have impelled the Communist Party of Spain to initiate a series of mass meetings.

The purpose of these mass meetings is not only to present the program of the Communist Party, but largely to popularize the aims of the Popular Front Government.

In this work of propaganda the Socialist Party is concurring enthusiastically, giving evidence that the unification of the two main proletarian parties of Spain is being accomplished and that the joint work is proceeding with increasing intensity even before the actual formality of unification has been carried out.

The meeting held at the Cine Salamanca on Sunday, August 8, was one of many held at the same time in many parts of Spain, and also the first of a series. That there was a need for such a meeting was best shown by the kind of speeches made.

We have been told repeatedly that Catalonia wanted autonomy, and also that it wanted a complete separation from the rest of Spain. Such a theory was very convenient to those who wanted to do as they pleased and needed a theory to defend their misdeeds. And their misdeeds were as many as they were varied. Last May these very same elements thought they had sufficient strength to victoriously challenge the government. But that was only a spectacular evidence of the seriousness of the danger they represented. Because these disorders had been confined chiefly to Catalonia, and because the idea of national autonomy had been misinterpreted, both there and in the rest of Spain, especially

by the enemies of the Popular Front Government, a pessimistic belief grew everywhere that Catalonia was not only a national problem but also practically a lost province. It was for the purpose of dispelling this belief and to inform Madrid of what the workers of Catalonia were doing that Rafael Vidiella, member of the Catalan Government and leading member of the Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia, was among the speakers at the meeting.

War Industries

We all know that one of the chief weaknesses of Loyalist Spain in the waging of its war of Independence is the lack of a real war industry. Catalonia was hoped to be the region where such an industry could be created. But in the way of the formation of such an industry there were obstacles of a technical nature as well of a psychological nature, Vidiella said.

The Spanish aristocracy never allowed Catalanian industry to develop in the direction of a potential war industry. The bourgeoisie knew full well that the industrial proletariat of Catalonia was a constant threat to its hegemony. The metal industry especially was kept within the limits of small production. The most developed industrial region of Spain, containing also no small amount of mineral wealth, remained an anemic industrial region, that is an industry which had importance only in relation to the much less developed industry of the rest of Spain. Such a condition could not be remedied in four days. Not only was it necessary to reorganize the industry, but it was necessary to reorganize the political structure of the whole region.

While the industry was found out to be unequal to the task, and in need of important

changes, the psychology of the working class had also to undergo a serious change. Catalonia was the region where the "organization of indiscipline" was a much cherished slogan. And by organization of indiscipline was meant that everyone could do as he damn pleased, that every factory council could ignore every thing else outside of itself, and that every town council, where any existed, could find its orders flouted by anyone, with full impunity, because of a state of mind altogether too prevalent. Such a situation was ideal under the old regime for the purpose of paralyzing the conduct of the existing social structure. Even then such conduct could not have positive results. But in war time, under social revolutionary conditions, it became clear that the continuation of such a policy was of the greatest help only to the fascists in the trenches and beyond. The necessary educational work has been undertaken and Catalonia is improving in a very promising manner. Production, which had fallen off scandalously, is decidedly on the increase. Many war necessities are now being produced quite efficiently and a feeling of general optimism is growing about the share that Catalonia will contribute to the winning of the war.

This is taking place parallel with the growth of the Unified Socialist Party formed by the merger of four separate parties which had, at the time of unification, a combined membership of about 7,000 members; and which during war time, and in spite of serious opposition of dangerous but very influential elements, has grown to a membership of well over 60,000.

The problem presented by Comrade Vicente Uribe, Minister for Agriculture, was another one, but closely related with the statements made by Vidiella.

Unification in Spain today is not merely a political problem concerning the parties involved. It is an extremely urgent problem on which the whole course of the war depends. It is clear that those who like to organize indiscipline are not fit to carry on the war and that victory cannot come through them.

They have lorded it in many villages and in all too great a number of industries. But the Spanish proletariat is in this fight to win, and it will not allow anything to remain in the way of the fight for victory. As Uribe well said, their attempts to raise their head at this moment is a sure indication of their admission that it is a matter of "now or never".

Here is a quotation from Uribe's speech:

"When the question arises of the nationalisation of industry, when it becomes important to mobilize this or that shop for war industry purposes, these new rich come out with their fancy notions that they are the enemies of the Government and of the State, while at the same time they build little governments of their own and do as it damn pleases them. And these new rich, whose wealth will not last long, when their dividends are not quite sufficient, know how to go to the very same Government whom enemies they say they are, and do not mind asking for more money.

"These elements, who are opposed to Government control of the economic means of the nation, are part of the chorus of owls hooting in the night without the least concern for the aims and need of the people. First they hold the money which is not their and then they are forever yelping at the government for more and ever more money.

"They are mistaken."

H. A.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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THE FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY AT HOME

Leo Gallagher, the author of the accompanying article, needs no introduction to the American volunteers. Since the organization of the International Labor Defense in 1925 he has defended, in California, thousands of workers falsely arrested for attempting to exercise the democratic rights they supposedly possessed under the Bill of Rights. He has been attorney for Tom Mooney; and he was sent to Germany in 1938 to defend Dimitroff, framed on the preposterous charge of having burned the Reichstag building in Berlin. Recently Leo Gallagher was the attorney for the defendants in the famous Sacramento Criminal Syndicalism trial. Two years ago, running for the Supreme Court in California, he polled 248,000 votes — the largest ever recorded by a progressive or labor candidate. — Editor's Note.

No one can well deny that there has been in the last two years a great advance in the organization of the progressive forces of the United States. Following the United S. S. W. Following the General Strike in San Francisco in 1934, the maritime workers of the West Coast consolidated their forces and achieved unity by the organization of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific.

The longshoremen, sailors and other maritime workers of the East and Gulf coasts, as well as on the Great Lakes, soon recognized the correct tactics used on the Pacific, and proceeded to repudiate their

old leadership. As a consequence, it will not be long before we shall find in the United States a powerful, unified National Maritime Federation.

— AND THE C. I. O.

The successes of the maritime workers have been duplicated in other fields. John

L. Lewis and his associates, conscious of the impotence of "craft" union organization in steel, rubber, auto and other basic industries, set out to organize hundreds of thousands of unorganized workers in these and other fields. Their success has been immediate and overwhelming. Millions of workers are now organized

into the C. I. O. and additional thousands are being added every week.

On the other hand, the reactionary forces controlling the economic life of the country are not blind to the threat which powerful union organization will mean to their dictatorial powers and privileges. They have converted their factories into armed fortresses, manned by gangsters, labor spies and provocateurs, who mislead or by threats force thousands of misguided workers to act as scabs. In this they are helped by the organization and use of company unions.

The struggle between the progressive forces of labor and the reactionary forces of privilege is becoming more bitter from day to day. The reactionaries, in this situation, instinctively turn to their old ally — or rather their historic servant, the State — for aid. But here too conditions are changing.

POLITICAL TREND IN U. S.

The rank and file of the American people have become aroused by the destruction of democratic rights in Germany and Italy. Just as France and Spain organized great united fronts in defense of democracy, so in America the progressive forces have begun to elect candidates on the basis of previous, proven records rather than upon the former candidates chosen by the reactionaries. As a result, the political apparatus in the United

FRANCO'S MAN-POWER

Probably everyone has wanted time and again to know just how many troops Franco has at his disposal and what he can count on for reserves. Izvestia's military expert Golubev has provided us with a fine analysis of the human resources of the rebels. Not content to show that Franco can put no more than 240,000 to 270,000 men in the fields as an Army of combat, with 70,000 to 100,000 of these on the Madrid fronts (not counting Guadalupe), Golubev traces the men to their sources.

At the beginning of the war there were 100,000 to 120,000 soldiers carried over to the rebellion; adding Civil Guards and other militarized bodies, we get from 130,000 to 140,000; with the requetés and Phalangists the Army of Rebellion would total 200,000. In December 1936 five years' conscripts were called up, so that at the beginning of 1937 the total manpower for the year came to 370,000 or 390,000, consisting of 200,000 recruits and

miscellaneous forces for secondary fronts and local garrisons, etc., 110,000 to 120,000 soldiers, 60,000 to 70,000 requetés and Fascists of the Pha-



lanx. Italians, Germans and Moors arrived steadily during 1937. The intervention troops totalled some 120,000 to 130,000 and by July not less than

(Continued on page 2.)

States, while far from ideal, is at least more favorable to labor than in the past. A number of public officials are fearlessly exposing the past hypocrisies of the political and labor fakirs alike.

Under this influence, a sufficient number of cowardly and even reactionary public officials have been forced to legislate and interpret laws in favor of labor. During the Roosevelt administration a number of measures have been enacted which are really epochal in the labor field — no-



Leo Gallagher.

tably the National Labor Relations Act, commonly known as the Wagner Labor Law. This law guarantees to the workers the right to organize into unions of their own choice. It therefore in effect outlaws the company union — the main obstacle to genuine union organization. After the passage of this act, the great American corporations, with their usual cynical disregard of law, continued to violate workers rights as they had done in the past. They felt that they might safely count upon the United States Supreme Court — the last citadel of reaction — to declare the Wagner Act unconstitutional.

TORIES DEFEATED

But here again the reactionaries failed to take into account the changed political set-up. The *fascists* drive to reform the Supreme Court was initiated. As a result of this

campaign, which was organized around the issue of curtailing the powers of the Court, that body came into such disrepute and was so discredited that it did not dare to declare the Wagner Act unconstitutional. The right of workers to bargain collectively through agencies of their own choice was judicially recognized. Meanwhile the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee was exposing the lawlessness of the great American corporations on the industrial field.

That the struggle for Labor's rights has not been an easy one, and that reaction is organizing to destroy all vestiges of democratic rights in America may be seen from the fact that the struggle to reform the United States Supreme Court was defeated, despite the fact that the majority of the American people were behind the effort.

All these events in America are directly linked up with the fascist invasion of Spain, and with the Washington-Lincoln Battalion — the American advance guard in the struggle for the defense of democratic rights in the United States.

Both the progressive and the reactionary forces in America are closely following events in Spain. The reactionaries fully realize that a fascist victory in Spain would result in a general strengthening of fascism throughout the world, and therefore also in the United States. With such a swing to the right, they would redouble their espionage and terrorism, and break the labor union movement throughout the country.

AMERICA WATCHES US

The progressive forces, on the other hand, know that the victory of democracy in Spain will immediately strengthen the united front, democratic forces throughout the world, and specifically in the United States. It is for this reason, and to give a concrete proof of solidarity with Republican

Spain, that the Maritime Federation of the Pacific called a general strike of its 40,000 members a few weeks ago,

The role of the members of the Washington-Lincoln Battalion can best be understood when one realizes that the fight in Spain is likely to shape the future of society throughout the world for years to come.

For this reason, we in America scan each day's paper for news about the Washington-Lincoln Battalion. We have read with pride the record of your struggles — volunteers who on foreign fields are defending American democracy.

To the Washington-Lincoln Battalion. Salud!

LEO GALLAGHER

BROOKLYN SHIP YARD SEES MASS PICKETING

Blunt refusal of the management of Robin Dry Dock Co. to negotiate a settlement with 15,000 workers on strike for over seven weeks, brought out a mass picket of more than 3,500 workers before the yards.

A similar demonstration took place before the Sisco Plant of the United Ship Yards Corp. at Mariner's Harbor, Staten Island.

Several truckloads of strikers from the Hoboken Tjenjen & Lang Yards participated in the Staten Island mass picketing. A very large percentage of Irish-Americans participated in the picketing together with their wives.

FRANCO'S MAN-POWER

(Continued from page 2.)

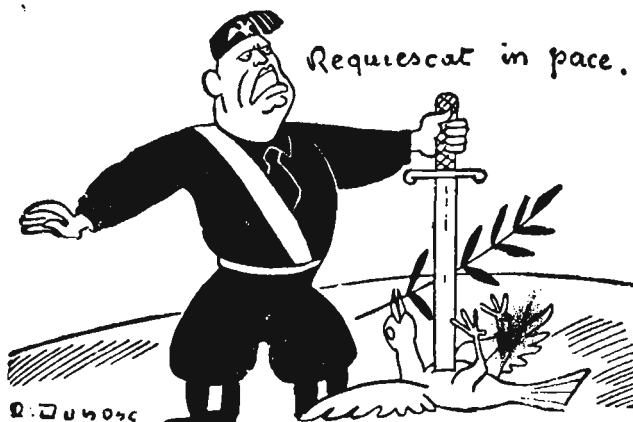
20,000 to 25,000 more Moors had been recruited. Thus Franco began the second year of war with from 390,000 to 440,000 men, when we have deducted his years' losses of 150,000 men. Troops needed in Morocco, secondary forces, auxiliary groups, local detachments absorb from 150,000 to 175,000 men, leaving a maximum figure of 240,000 to 270,000 for his Army of Combat.

When the Government offensive began at Brunete, the Fascists maintained some 70,000

men on the entire Madrid front with the exception of the Guadalajara side. It was reported that they had decided to increase their forces around Madrid to 100,000, utilizing Italians, in view of the increased mobility of the People's Army.

Franco himself summarizes his manpower problem in his proposals for a new rebel offensive: Mussolini and Hitler must give him 125,000 men or he cannot move, he reports.

Which amply reveals his condition.



REST IN PEACE. Mussolini gets his bird.

TOO MUCH OF RACE

The following address was made by Langston Hughes, outstanding American poet and novelist, at the Second International Writers Congress in Paris, a month ago.

Members of the Second International Writers Congress and people of Paris: I come from a land called America, a democratic land, a rich land --and yet a land whose democracy from the very beginning has been tainted with race prejudice born of slavery, and whose richness has been poured through the narrow channels of greed into the hands of the few. I come to the Second International Writers Congress representing my country, America, but most especially representing the Negro peoples of America, and the poor peoples of America --because I am both a Negro and poor. And that combination of color and of poverty gives me the right then to speak for the most oppressed group in America--that group that has known so little of democracy--the fifteen million Negroes who dwell within our borders.

We are the people who have long known in actual practice the meaning of the word **fascism**--for the American attitude toward us has always been one of economic and social discrimination: In many States of our country Negroes are not permitted to vote or

to be unable to work in editorial offices, or write for the motion pictures. We know Jim-Crow cars, race-riots, lynchings, the sorrows of the Scottsboro boys. In America, Negroes do not have to be told what fascism is in action. We know. It's theories of Nordic supremacy and economic suppression have long been realities to us.



FASCISM ON WORLD SCALE

And now we view Fascism on a world scale: Hitler in Germany with the abolition of labor unions, his tyranny over the Jews, and the sterilization of the Negro children of Cologne; Mussolini in Italy with his banning of Negroes on the theatrical stages, and his expeditions of slaughter in Ethiopia; the Military Party in Japan with their little maps of how they'll conquer the whole world, and their savage treatment of the Koreans and Chinese; Batista and Vincent, the little American-made tyrants of Cuba and Haiti; and now Spain, and Franco with his absurd cry of "Viva España" in the hands of Italians, Moors, and Germans invited to help him achieve "Spanish unity". Absurd, but true!

We Negroes of America are tired of a world divided superficially on the basis of race and color--but in reality on the basis of poverty and power--the rich over the poor, no matter what their color. We Negroes of America are tired of a world in which it is possible for any one group of people to say to another, "You have no right to happiness, or freedom, or the joy of life". We are tired of a world where forever we work for someone else and the profits are not ours. We are tired of a world where, when we raise our voices against oppression, we are immediately jailed, intimidated, beaten, sometimes lynched.

Nicolas Guillen has been in prison in Cuba, Jacques Roumain in Haiti, Angelo Hernandez in the United States. The great Indian writer, Raj Anand, cannot come to the Writers Congress in Paris because the British police have taken his passport from him.

"MURDER IS NOTHING"

I say, we darker peoples of the earth are tired of a world in which things like that can happen. And we see in the tragedy of Spain how far the world-oppressors will go to retain their power. To them, now, the murder of women and children is nothing. Those who have already practiced bombing the little villages of Ethiopia, now bomb Guernica



and Madrid. The same Fascists who forced Italian peasants to fight in Africa now force African Moors to fight in Europe. They do not care about color when they can use you for profits or for war. Japan attempts to force the Chinese of Manchuria to work and fight under Japanese supervision for the glory and wealth of the Tokio bourgeoisie--one colored

people dominating another at the point of guns. Race means nothing when it can be turned to Fascist use. And yet race means everything when fascists of the world use it as a bugaboo and a terror to keep the working masses from getting together.

Just as in America, they tell the whites that Negroes are dangerous brutes and rapists, so in Germany they lie about the Jews, and in Italy they cast their verbal spit upon the Ethiopians. And the old myths of race are kept alive to hurt and impede the rising power of the working class. But in America, where race prejudice is so strong, already we have learned that the lies of race mean continued oppression and poverty and fear--and now Negroes and white sharecroppers in the cotton fields of the South are beginning to get together; and Negro and white workers in the great industrial cities of the North under John L. Lewis and the C. I. O. have begun to create a great labor force that refuses to recognize the color line. Negro and white stevedores on the docks of the West Coast of America have formed one of the most powerful labor unions in America. Formerly, the unorganized Negro dockworkers --unorganized because the white workers themselves with

(Continued on Page 4.)



to hold political office. In some sections freedom of movement is greatly hindered, especially if we happen to be sharecroppers on the cotton plantations of the South. All over America we know what it is to be refused admittance to schools and colleges, to theatres and concert halls, to hotels and restaurants. We Negro writers know what it is

REMEMBER THIS?



On the old Jarama front.

To the English-Speaking Comrades of the International Brigades

In saying farewell to you (for a time only) there is little I can say which I have not said many times before. But one thing I must add, my heartfelt thanks for the help given me and for the comradeship I received. Boys, my work was made easy, that's the solid truth. My job was a simple one, of course, to try to break down that isolation from Spanish events which many comrades have felt so keenly. All of you, or the great majority of you, had active political lives in the States and in England. You were part of the active, creative movement in your countries, and so came to Spain. Though you are taking the most vital of all roles, you still feel cut off from the significant background of Spanish life. Mine was not a difficult job, because Spain has been my country long enough for me to love garlic and to revel in olive oil (hence this troublesome waistline, I suppose). In fact the only thing I can't stand about the States is its food; not enough oil, spice, rice or mule meat and beans.

TOO MUCH OF RACE

(Continued from page 3.)

their backward ideology didn't want Negroes in their unions—formerly these Negro workers could break a strike. And they did. But now, together, both Negroes and whites are strong. We are learning.

THEY FEAR US

Why is it that the British police seize Raj Anand's passport? Why is it that the State Department in Washington delays unduly in granting me permission to go to Spain as a representative of the Negro press? Why is it that the young Negro leader, Angelo Herndon, was finding it most difficult to secure a passport this spring in New York? Why? We know why!

It is because the reactionary and Fascist forces of the world know that writers like Anand

But what gave me a kick was the way the comrades took the dope. Real attention, and damn good questions, and more than that, the boys wanted no easy solutions, no sloppy generalizations, but were eager to understand the real and enormous complications of the Spanish Popular Revolution. I like talking about Spain anyway, and for want of an audience sometimes practise on myself. I expect you guessed that.

Whether I succeeded in giving all the information that was wanted I do not know. But I think many were satisfied, for sometimes I got the sincerest form of thanks, a good swinging backhanded compliment, right in the jaw. One comrade earned my affection (and I mean it) by saying, "Comrade Bates, after listening to that, I'm damned if I can see how an intelligent guy like you could write such a long-winded, silly, stupid book as you did!" In the first place that shows he was on good terms with me, that guy, and that's what I always wanted; and in the second, well

honest opinions are good for swelled heads (the common fault of writers). But really, I could see, he was saying, "Thank you, comrade; that was the works!"

EVENINGS OF COMRADESHIP

There are many events I shall always remember, the

with the Mac-Paps, particularly the one when the cooks wouldn't give me any coffee, and the Ukrainians sang like red angels.

SUMMING UP

If I had to sum up in one paragraph what I have always tried to say, it would be this: Boys, never forget you are in



«Non Interventemists»: «Suppose we knock off for the summer, boys».

moonlit night on the Jarama front when the fascists suddenly put an end to questions with a piece of rudeness characteristic of fascists; or perhaps it was the olive trees, for by the time I got back from the Battalion armory with a rifle, it was all over. Or again, I shall always remember the lecture place in the English Battalion, with its machine gun post just above. By the way, after the poor efforts of the American boys, it was pleasant to hear a little good English blasphemy. And a certain night at the Auto Park, beneath the trees, and the canteen afterwards, and Bunny cheering us up with sad songs. (Though the limit in songs was reached by the Lincoln boys, who could shame any journalist or commercial traveller.) Grand evenings, full of human health, and—why not say it—a comradeship such as I have rarely experienced, and by Christ, comradeship is one

of the biggest compensations for the hard work our movement gives us. And I shall remember, too, my meetings

a country that is still struggling out of feudal conditions, and that not every Spaniard sees which way to get out of feudalism. Never expect a degree of organization and smooth working you would expect of an English or American proletariat, therefore. If you remember this, you will be as amazed as I am at the distance we have covered and take fresh confidence and courage. Any comrade who can't see this has just forgotten his theoretical dope, that's the truth.

And finally, I'm going to the States, and there I'll try to do the same I set out to do here. I promise to send over news about each city I visit and about each section of the movement I come in contact with. And, of course, to pep up the cigarets and chocolate wallahs. I guess you guys can permit one boast as a parting shot. I never gave a single pep-talk. Any man who denies this can choose his weapons mine's a hatchet.

Salud.

RALPH BATES

LANGSTON HUGHES

ANARCHISM IN LEGALITY

The Iberian Anarchist Federation has long been the strongest section of the International Workingmen's Association. In fact, nowhere but Spain has the Anarchist movement had first-rate importance. In the course of a year of popular defense against Fascism, the F. A. I. has made many adjustments to legal conditions and to the popular revolution. Nevertheless, its fundamental structure remained that of an illegal organization, or as the Anarchists put it, a movement that lived "above rather than beyond the law". "Affinity groups" were the basic cell. In other words, small conspiratorial groups, conforming to the Anarchist faith in a few determined men rather than the great masses less capable of quick action. The fundamental approach of the Anarchists, a year after the military-clerical-Fascist rising was still that of a hunted, persecuted, opposition movement. Yet the anarcho-syndicalists had early elected to participate in Government, and the libertarians often claimed a majority of the armed workers of Spain. At length the F. A. I., which has always provided the political direction for the C. N. T., decided to change its articles of faith and organic structure.

CHANGES IN STRUCTURE

"The groups that served as basic cells of the F. A. I.", explains a sort of long preamble to the new Constitution,

"are not sufficiently flexible at the present moment, although they performed an important historic mission and were well-suited to epochs of underground work". Therefore the Constitution provides for village groups or branches, district branches in cities, federations of branches and, for strictly political work, provincial federations



following prevailing provincial bounds. The higher organs are the Regional Federations and the Iberian Anarchist Federation binding them together.

Behind this unexciting structural reform lies a complete revision of the Anarchist articles of faith. In the first place, the F. A. I. frankly acknowledges the need of building a mass party and of providing direction for the Revolution. "If we aspire to have the masses accompany us and endorse the transformation we propose, etc..." It is quite evident that the lessons of a year of popular Revolution have overcome the objections of the Anarchists to a great many

political principles. For instance, they long combatted the building of a mass party in campaigns opposing proselytism, and they criticized the Communist Party's "directorship political line" as tending toward hegemony and dictatorship. Now they frankly state: "The Revolution must be oriented and directed... The F. A. I., to be concrete, has its hands on the powerful levers of a Revolution." But there is an even greater break with the past in this little discussed document. The Constitution calls unmistakably for stern discipline and a single party line!

SIGNIFICANT DECISION

Those who recall the Anarchist posters calling for the organization of indiscipline, will have some hint of the internal revolution this decision symbolizes. Individual Anarchists had to break with their friends, in the past, if they agreed with the Communists on this point. The late Durruti, in exile in Paris, told his friend Romero: "I shall be 'for' discipline if the Revolution comes in Spain". Romero himself says he then disagreed but in the course of the war realized that Durruti was right. Now the F. A. I. has come the whole theoretic way on this point:

"The F. A. I. must give its movement a new structure accepting the practices that are necessary to achieve victory and that are demanded by the special conditions in which the war and revolution place us. Subordinated individually and collectively to our supreme aim. We must be coherent, disciplined and daring in action, and in order. That that action may take form and crystalize in results achieved, the F. A. I. must have a uniform political line that embraces all aspects of social and political life, so that it may anticipate 'how' it will act at any moment and in any circumstances."

OPEN POLITICAL PARTY

What has happened? In effect the F. A. I. has constituted itself into an open political party, aspiring to guide the masses, "open a single channel and direct events in a single direction", namely, the direction of Libertarian Communism. It has made this decision because the popular Revolution changed everything. There is even the suggestion that the F. A. I. realizes it has been slow to adjust:

"In the economic order, the F. A. I. recognizes that Spain is living through a period of profound transformation. Feudal property in land surviving since time immemorial tends rapidly to give way to collective



BLUEBEARD: "E demand recognition as a belligerent."

property, thereby destroying the major historic bulwark of Spanish capitalism... On the other hand, great industrial enterprises likewise tend to assume a collective character, thereby fundamentally changing the character of the national economy." That changes the relations of the Anarchists to their environment. "We who fought tirelessly yesterday against a condition of tyranny and injustice, today stand at the side of the new institutions arisen from the Revolution as the expression of the deepest desires of the masses..."



Therefore, as against our inhibitions of yesterday, we feel that it is the duty of all Anarchists to take part in every public institution that can strengthen and advance the new state of affairs."

MIRACLES STILL POSSIBLE

On the positive side, the new Constitution is rather weak. As a carry-over of the long opposition record of Anarchism, the programmatic suggestions or bases seem rather to reject those of Marxism than to specify "how" the Anarchists expect to achieve their aims. The function of the trade unions to plan production in general lines and strictly to control the means and forms of production is stated without commentary. The Federalist political principles of Anarchism, based on the autonomous region, the comarca and municipio (county rather than municipality) are also formally reaffirmed. But in the preamble, the really important basis of continued popular unity appears: "The F. A. I. cannot accomplish its whole mission if the war is lost. To win the war is to maintain the principle of the Revolution strong and victorious..."

With the present structure of the F. A. I. and the crowded



lessons of common struggle against Fascism still to be learned in the coming months, miracles are possible. Would it not be a miraculous view of unity in Spain to look forward to some future entry of the F. A. I. into a single party of the proletariat side by side with the Communists and Socialists?

G. M.

A CHILDRENS'S HOME SOMEWHERE IN SPAIN

When we first came here we were kept very busy preparing the villas for the members of the International Brigades. There were 18 of us, nurses sent from Madrid. Nearly all the nurses had been in the 5th Regiment—that is to say that they had fought in the trenches from the very first days of the struggle.

But we were not so busy

neighborhood. They came from the Malaga front, where they left everything else and fled from the Fascists with their children on their backs. They know nothing of what has happened to their husbands, or to the rest of their families.

I have seen these poor children crying at the slightest sound, in the belief that it was a Fascist bombardment...

to take an interest in them. Gradually their visits to the Orphans' Home became more and more frequent, until finally one comrade from the International Brigades married the woman comrade in charge, and another married the teacher.

And so now it is as if we were all one family: the children in the Home and the International Volunteers; even the contrast between them makes a very harmonious picture... the weak and tiny orphan beside the strong, grave volunteer.

When the volunteers see the children they remember that they too have children. Because of this the home is always full of Volunteers who do all they can to look after the kids and make them happy.

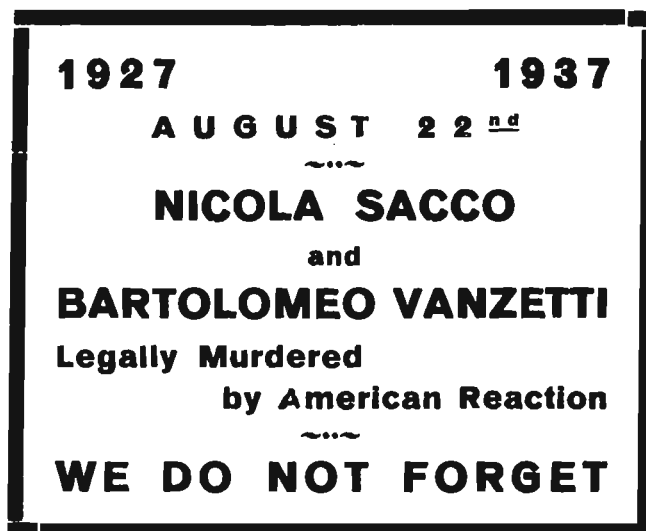
MASS ADOPTIONS

At first each volunteer wanted to adopt one special child, but then they thought it best to adopt all without any distinctions, and that is what they finally did. Now when a collection is taken the money goes to the children, who now have everything they need.

At the fete which was held for the opening of the Kitchen for those on special diets at the Hotel, the children were given bathing costumes, everything they needed for games on the beach, and hammocks, etc.

The Governor of C... the Mayor, the Pioneers all came, and they all competed with one another in speech-making. But the best of all was when the little children began to recite poetry, Garcia Lorca's gypsy ballad and other things in the same style. They recited and sang Asturian and Andalusian songs and they were all improved by the children voices, and when at the end they were given a Punch and Judy show everyone laughed; and it was impossible to tell who laughed loudest—the children or the volunteers for liberty.

MARIA P. DE ECROYA



that we did not find time to visit the refugee children at the Home for the Orphans of militiamen who were the only inhabitants of these deserted villas.

The children were the first who had been taken from the different fronts, and there were children of Asturian miners who had no idea what had happened to their fathers, many from Madrid and others from the Andalusian front, where they had seen their parents suffer all kinds of torture even to being burned alive... And the poor little children remember, and have an expression as if of horror on their faces, and in their dreams at night they cry their hearts out.

TERROR-STRICKEN

Some are the children of women who are working in the

At first the children were left very much to themselves. No one took much notice of them. Maria Luisa, who was in charge of them, complained that even at Christmas nobody thought about them.

At that time the members of the International Brigades were not in the majority here. Not a single one had arrived as yet. It was only about Christmas time that the first began to arrive.

THE I. B. ARRIVES

In any case it was a pitiful sight to see the poor children. One day we of the Socorro Rojo brought them some clothes, for they came with nothing and since it was wintertime this made their state all the more pitiable.

The Comrades of the International Brigades soon began

LETTERS from HOME

From the Editor of the
New Masses

Dear E.,

...The New Masses is already sending several hundred copies regularly to the International Brigade. However, I am suggesting to the circulation department that an additional batch be sent to you for distribution to the MacKenzie-Papineau boys.

Spain continues to be the big issue here. We feel the impact of the struggle in various walks of life. In Hollywood funds are raised by progressive actors and writers for one or another of the Spanish committees. On the San Francisco waterfront you can see slogans in the trade-union halls calling for support of Spanish democracy. Naturally every word about Spain is read with the greatest of interest, and I am looking forward to the article you promised us by a member of the Loyalist army...

...I want to write you a much longer letter than this, but this is my first day back in the office after a three-weeks' tour



and I am only now catching up with my work, so this brief salutation will have to do for the moment. However, there's one thing I want to add:

I made a visit to San Quentin and talked with Tom Mooney for about three-quarters of an hour. He reads everything he can about Spain and his heart is with you fellows. What a grand guy! After 21 years he is still full of courage and fight, confident of the justice of his own cause and of the



Our Fellow antifascists in China.

future of the working class. It was an inspiration to see him.

Write me again soon and if you get the chance, make it a long, detailed letter all about your outfit and yourself.—Saludos!—JOSEPH FREEMAN, New York, July 15, 1937.

*

Dear A.,

...Of course the struggle in Spain is very close to all of us here and it is easy to conclude that more and more people are becoming interested as they realize the significance of the battle between democracy and reaction. At the moment democracy seems to be in the saddle here. The LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee is turning up some spectacular (and to the innocents, unsuspected) facts. The Wagner Act is, for the time, functioning in favor of the workers. Politicians, emboldened by the successes of their own daring confreres, begin to talk more and more like militant friends of labor. The list of strikes called and strikes won is too long for the newspapers to print entire... Truly, people of like interests are being drawn together as they sense the struggle that is taking place and its imminent threat to themselves.

For instance: near us is a summer camp leased by the Sociedad Naturista Hispánica, whose acquaintance I made last year, a proletarian group similar to the German Naturkreunde. Although there are many anti-fascist comrades among them, they were not able last season to sponsor any anti-fascist activity because of differences among their membership. Last year, too, we found them only vaguely conscious of events in Spain and their significance, as they read almost no English papers and their Spanish ones were coming rarely and very late. But the course of the war has awakened them. They have progressed a long way toward unity in the last ten months. Now they are able openly to espouse the cause of Loyalist Spain and to work in its support. On Sunday the camp will be filled with banners reading "No Pasaran" and with the emblems of the various proletarian organizations of Spain. There will be a big fiesta and hundreds of guests will come to hear the latest accounts of the heroism of Spain's defenders and to contribute what they can to their support. This... is a picture in miniature of what is happening all over the country on a much grander scale....—A. S., Staten Island. N. Y., July 22, 1937.

70,000 SILK WORKERS THREATEN TO STRIKE

The possibility of a national silk workers strike in the U. S. increased when it was decided to present an agreement to the silk manufacturers. Unless the agreement is signed, the Textile Workers Organization Committee, affiliated with C. I. O., will call the strike.

The Union demands are: A weekly increase of 10 to 20 per cent, a minimum weekly wage of 18 dollars for weavers, a weekly minimum of 15 dollars for auxiliary help, and the 40 hour week.

All silk mills in New England, Pennsylvania and New Jersey will be affected. Expectations are for a short strike, because several manufacturers have already agreed to sign new contracts.

160,000 BRITISH SHIP BUILDING WORKERS ASK HOLIDAYS WITH PAY

Claims for holidays with pay for 160,000 workers employed in the shipbuilding industry are now before the Employer's Federation. It is expected that a meeting with the unions concerned will be arranged at an early date.

Another matter debated by the workers is that of secur-



ing union rights for young apprentices. The importance of securing this has been glaringly demonstrated by disclosure of wage rates and working conditions made during the recent big strikes on the Clyde and at other ports.

The militancy of the young apprentices came as an unwelcome surprise to the employers, who were forced to a settlement of the strike. With this as a precedent, and backed by the militancy of the apprentices, the unions are in a strong position to fight the issue.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades ★

Vol. I - N.° 12

Madrid, August 30 - 1937

DRIVE FOR UNIFIED PARTY SPREADS

Valencia.—A great campaign is taking place in favour of the formation of a single proletarian party by the fusion of the Socialist and Communist Parties. Meetings are being held in all parts of Government Spain which are crowded with enthusiastic audiences despite the great heat. This campaign really represents the intensification and speeding of a trend which has existed for a considerable time here. In the early days of the uprising the, numerically, rather small Socialist and Communist Parties of Catalonia decided that union was strength, and that their aims were fundamentally the same, and that the less division there was in the anti-fascist forces the better, and formed the P.S.U.C.—the Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia. Since then this party has strengthened and increased and has always worked for the closest understanding with and support of the rest of Spain. In June, 1936 the Socialist and Communist Youth of the rest of Spain united to form the J. S. U.—the Unified Socialist Youth.

Meetings are being held in Barcelona, Madrid, Valencia, and various other towns in which speakers from the P. S. U. C., the J. S. U., and the Socialist and Communist Parties of Spain are taking part.

STRESS CATALONIA'S ROLE

In Barcelona, on August 5th, where Juan Comorera, secretary of the P. S. U. C. and minister in the Generalidad, spoke

(in Catalan, which I unfortunately was unable to follow), and Jesus Hernandez, Minister of Education in the Valencia Government, the slogans with which the hall was blazoned were "Catalonia cannot be free if the rest of Spain falls a victim to Fascism." "Spain cannot be free without the aid of Catalonia."

On August 8th, in Valencia,

I attended a meeting at which Comorera and Pasionaria were the speakers.

Comorera described the situation in Catalonia. The P. S. U. C. has now 60,000 members and the U. G. T. (socialist trade union) has over half a million members in Catalonia, that is to say, it has increased to a point where it has 100,000 more members than the C.N.T.

(syndicalists) which was formerly far more numerous. In comparison with the difficulties which had to be surmounted in Catalonia a year ago he suggested that the rest of Spain would not find it an impossible task to form a single workers' party. And he also stressed the absolute interdependence of the welfare of Catalonia with the rest of Spain.

WAR COMMISSAR DEL VAYO ON SPAIN'S IMMEDIATE NEEDS

The following extracts from the speech of Alvarez del Vayo, Commissar of War, delivered in Madrid last Sunday, should be of interest to all English-speaking members of the International Brigades.

★

Of all military leaders and of all the civilian authorities, the revolution asks two things: the first is that they believe wholeheartedly in the revolution and in the people. And first of all, that they believe in our victory. Saint Just used to say: "I fear only one thing: I fear the generals who do not believe in their victory." And then, in the great teachings of the French Revolution, so well understood by Lenin — synthesized in the one short sentence which was the whole message of Robespierre to the French Army in Italy: "The Republic cannot be defeated".

From the very beginning we saw that one of our most important tasks was the formation of a powerful war industry. To possess such an industry is in itself an achievement of great importance, because it increases the international importance of the country. It also means the reduction of the national deficit. In addition, it supplies the necessary arms to the Army and lessens the fears and anguish concerning shipments, always the possible victims of fascist piratical prowess, constantly cruising outside of our jurisdictional waters.

(Continúa en la pág. 2.)

PASIONARIA SPEAKS

Then Dolores Ibarruri, La Pasionaria, who is a deputy to the Cortes, rose to speak. Every seat in the hall was filled. Between 2 and 3,000 people were present.

The welcome she received was most moving. But when you see her in person the extraordinary influence over and popularity with the masses which she enjoys is very understandable. She is rather tall and strongly built, is handsome and dignified in a typical Spanish way. Her brown eyes express sympathy and compassion.

Her black hair, with a few silver threads in it is done in a plain knot at the back of the head. She dresses simply in black. Her face in repose is sad but is lit up by a charming smile. Her position in public life does not prevent her from being a truly womanly and motherly figure. Her personality is so remarkable and her voice so thrilling that even people unable to understand Spanish have been much moved on seeing and hearing her.

(Continúa a pagina 2.)

DRIVE FOR UNIFIED PARTY

She spoke of the wonderful strides that have been made in the training and organization of the People's Army. She referred with great tenderness and feeling to a recent visit to the fronts of Madrid and the splendid spirit of the soldiers there with whom she conversed. She then spoke of the necessity of organizing the rear guard as efficiently as the Army. She said that all of us must be prepared to make sacrifices so that the soldiers shall not want for anything. That the reception and care of refugees is a duty but it is not the whole duty of the citizen behind the lines. She urged the necessity of abolishing equal salaries which benefit the lazy workman at the expense of the in-

dustrious one and establishing a scale by which workers will be paid according to the value and quantity of their work and which will act as an incentive in industry. She ended by urging the unification of the two parties as indispensable for a speedy victory over Fascism and the invaders of Spain. The anti-fascists must form a monolith for united action and responsibility.

The speech of Vicente Uribe (in Madrid) echoed the same sentiments but he, as Minister of Agriculture, suggested that the severest treatment should be meted out to speculators and food profiteers, and rendered homage to the splendid work and solidarity of the peasants.



War Commissar Alvarez del Vayo.

DEL VAYO ON SPAIN'S IMMEDIATE NEEDS

We ask an active participation in the organization and in the rapid functioning of our transport system, as well as coordination and planning of the economic life of our country. After a year of war we are still compelled to use bitter words against the passivity of certain rearguard elements and the shameless way in which they are forever bargaining on their efforts and collaboration in the great work of liberation.

We demand an inexorable policy in the rear, not only

for the purpose of securing order, but also for the purpose of drawing actively into the war whole regions, cities and villages. Persuasion has its limits. It is now many months since we have published and multiplied our appeals for solidarity against fascism to the conscience of our people. We must end this scandalous situation, in which an unequal participation in the war is possible. It is necessary to be done with this convenient theory of the division of labor, in which some die to win the war and others live to exploit the victory.

The Strengthening of The Popular Front. It is abundantly evident that those who in 1935 were advocating the revolutionary policy of the Popular Front were correct. Those who did not study the question deeply accused the defenders of the Popular Front of being opportunists and bunglers. What would have happened had the July rebellion surprised us without the vigorous policy of the Popular Front, which in one day succeeded

in uniting and mobilizing all the anti-fascist forces in the fight for the defense of the nation and for liberty. As long as the war lasts there can be no other policy than that of the Popular Front. It is the unifying center of all the anti-fascist forces; it is the central point in which all can fight under the same flag without being compelled in any way to abandon the ideology of one's party. Support the Popular Front...

I favor a Unified Party... I once again insist that to achieve victory we must have an active regrouping of all the authentically anti-fascist forces, without any exclusions.

The other day, in Valencia, I declared myself in favor of the participation of the CNT in the task of leading the destinies of the nation. But I added: That is to enter the government, but on condition that the whole organization participates unanimously in the work of carrying out all the decisions that are made.

Participation in the Cabinet demands the loyal collaboration not only of those in the Government, but also of those behind them, who follow their organization. When an organization has representatives in the government, and when the decisions of the government are not completely satisfactory to this organization's followers, it is impermissible for these followers merely to take the liberty of changing the policy of the government with the excuse that their policy is more revolutionary and correct.

The Unified Party is on the march, and nothing can stop its realization... Socialists and Communists in the Party units, in the shops and factories, where you fight and where you live, work for the Unified Party.

ALVAREZ DEL VAYO

We Must Help Our Comrades in the North

The battle is raging fiercely in the North of Spain.

Once again Mussolini has flung the forces of Italian invasion against the Spanish people, against the brave soldiers of Santander and Asturias. Once again Hitler and Mussolini are bringing shame on the German and Italian peoples by invading Spanish soil and slaughtering, from the height of their "Junkers" and "Capronis", the defenceless population in the North, the women and children of Santander and Asturias.

The Fascist newspapers cynically admit that Italian Divisions are fighting in the North, that the well-armed "banderas" of Blackshirts have been sent to massacre the unarmed population in the mountains around Santander.



The soldiers of Asturias and Santander are fighting with stubborn and unyielding courage against the Italian invaders, fighting to bar the way to the foreigners, to Fascism, to slavery. The Blackshirt Divisions have hoisted Mussolini's flag on a few positions, but how much Italian blood, how many corpses these victories have cost them!

OUR DUTY IS CLEAR

In this tragic hour for our Spanish brothers, the duty of the true sons of the Italian and German peoples, the duty of all the peoples who love freedom is the duty which is made clear by the heroism and the splendid spirit of solidarity of the International Volunteers for Liberty.

The Volunteers for Liberty have fought on many fronts. On many fronts they have hel-

ped the Spanish people to bar the way to the Fascists, to defeat them, to put them to flight.

From the Jarama to Guadalupe, from University City to Brunete, to Villanueva del Pardillo: everywhere the courage of the International Volunteers has routed Fascism, has defeated the Blackshirts.

further steps on the road to the victory of Republican Spain.

CALL ALL FORCES

This proves more than ever that the path of implacable struggle is the only path to be followed to fight and defeat

We must close our ranks, overcome our weakness, resist and advance.

We must help our brothers in the North. We must save the women and children of Santander from massacre.

If we help our comrades in the North we are helping Republican Spain, we are helping the fighters for liberty, we are helping the International Volunteers who are the noblest expression of a magnificent international solidarity.

We help to save the women and children of Santander from massacre by strengthening international solidarity in all fields: in the sphere of the volunteers and in that of assistance.

We help our comrades in the North by fighting the Fascists



In Memory of our fallen leaders

AMERICAN

OLIVER LAW.—Commander, Lincoln Battalion.

MORRIS WICKMAN. — Company Political Commissar.

HARRY HYNES.—Company Political Commissar (Both of Washington Battalion).

CANADIAN

STUART (Paddy) O'NEILL.—Sergeant, Lincoln Battalion.

ENGLISH

GEORGE NATHAN.—Major, 15th Brigade.
CHARLES GOODFELLOW. — Second-in-Command, English Battalion.

BILL MEREDITH.—Commander, No. 2 Company, English Battalion.

BOB ELLIOT.—Company Political Commissar.

NOTE: Articles on the life and death of these and other fallen members of the International Brigades will appear in future issues of "The Volunteer for Liberty."

During the last weeks the International Brigades have once again written one of the finest pages in the history of the armed struggle against slavery and for freedom. The victorious offensive of the Republican Army on the Central Front in which the International Volunteers took part, the unconquerable resistance to the Fascist counter-attacks are

Fascism, slavery and barbarism.

The struggle is hard. Fascism is still strong, strong through the support of all the most reactionary forces in all countries, strong through the weakness of democracy.

We must call to our aid all the forces of the friends of peace, of humanity, civilisation and progress.

on all fronts with more courage than ever. The International Brigades have already given their help by fighting in the Centre Front. They are ready to fight wherever the Higher Command gives the order. They will continue to fight and to conquer on all fronts, overcoming all obstacles, resisting all dangers, rising above all the hardness of the struggle.

That is the price of victory.

Victory, which is not only the victory of Republican Spain, but the victory of all the peoples who are for freedom, who are against war, and who do not want to feel the iron heel of Fascism on themselves and their country, and the victory of all peoples who want to win their freedom, and for this aim, for this victory, are ready to shed their last drop of blood.

Let us go forward united to that victory.

LUIGI GALLO

AMERICAN HOSPITALS IN SPAIN

The American Hospital Group is a part of the International Sanitary Service organized to aid the duly constituted government of Spain. This service, which is of great magnitude, is an expression of international solidarity with the Spanish people.

The role of the International Sanitary Service is a new historical phenomenon. Never before in the history of mankind have so many representatives of different nationalities joined to aid a people in their struggle against invaders who are attempting to destroy their freedom, rights and liberties. Twenty-two nationalities are represented in the International Sanitary Service aiding in the struggle.

The magnitude of the work of the International Sanitary Service in Spain can best be realized by noting the following:

HOSPITAL FIGURES

The personnel consists of 220 doctors and surgeons, 550 nurses, 600 ambulance drivers, stretcher bearers and first aid men.

There are 25 hospitals in this service with a capacity of over 5,000 beds. There are 14 surgical groups. There are 15 ambulances which can transport, at one time, between 700 and 800 wounded when necessary.

Our American Hospital Group plays one of the most important and prominent roles in the work of the International Sanitary Service. The American Hospital Group was successfully organized and developed under the guidance of Dr. Edward Barsky, and further maintained under the capable direction of Dr. Donald H. Pitts. At present both are in the United States continuing their work against fascism by popularizing the work of the American Hospital groups in Spain.

The growth of the American Hospital Group has been a continuous one; and since I have taken charge of the entire group, two more hospitals ha-

ve been added to our number. Some of our American hospitals are in the Madrid sector, and these played an extremely important role in the last drive. Our Southern Hospital Groups are well equipped and manned, and doing their share to make the American Hospitals exemplary in Spain.

AFTER LAST OFFENSIVE

But now to the recent activities around Madrid and the part played by our hospitals. For one full month our surgeons, nurses, ambulance drivers and stretcher bearers have worked continuously. We

had our forces so divided that we participated in all the phases of surgical aid to the wounded, starting from the front lines, to the Evacuation Hospital, and finally to our Base Hospitals. We had surgical teams operating in the front line hospitals where the most serious cases were operated upon, such as gunshot wounds through the belly and brain. At this hospital, transfusions were given frequently, using the new system of "canned" blood.

The activity at these front line hospitals was most intense and the number of wounded pouring in so great that

numerous surgical teams were kept busy with practically no time for sleep. The nurses, too, in these front line hospitals were put through an exhaustive test. Let me say here that the nurses, even though working under constant aerial bombardment, performed their duties with such efficiency that they are an example and a credit to the entire nursing profession.

SERVICE UNDER FIRE

The ambulance drivers and stretcher bearers performed meritorious service under the very same fire that our boys in the front line trenches had

OUR OWN "MEN IN WHITE"



Scenes in Our American Hospitals.

WITH OUR AMERICAN HOSPITALS

to contend with. All sections of our personnel forfeited their personal needs, such as food and sleep, in order to give all that was humanly possible to aid the victims of the vicious fascist aerial bombardment. Nor was the bombardment limited to the front lines, for close to our Hospital and in the surrounding territory, the fascist planes dropped bombs of a different type. These were flame bombs which set fire to the surrounding fields and villages. It was only a miracle that our Hospital escaped a direct hit by one of these flame bombs dropped from the black "Caproni" planes. One of these bombs I personally inspected after it had done its damage and saw the stamp on the cap that revealed its German origin.

One of our hospital groups played an effective role in evacuating the wounded to our Base Hospitals. Evacuation is one of the most important phases of caring for the wounded, and even though unheralded, supplies that link in the chain of military hospitals without which no hospital system can function. It is this phase of the work that showed the need for more ambulances. Ambulances are the backbone of transportation from the lines to the front hospitals, and then later to the base hospitals. There can be no limit to the number of ambulances needed, because the more ambulances available the quicker the wounded can be transported to the hospital for opera-

tion. Early operation often means the difference between the life and death of the wounded soldier.

EVACUATION WORK

Even though we had to organize our evacuation unit very rapidly, it functioned most



Dr. IRVING BUSCH, Chief Surgeon and Commandant of all the American hospitals in Spain.

smoothly. Our base hospitals, which are always prepared, began to receive wounded in large numbers. A tremendous load was thrust suddenly upon our doctors and nurses who had to work indefatigably to keep pace with the increasing number of wounded. Very soon the base hospitals were working at full capacity. There was no time for rest. Both doctors and nurses took their tasks in stride cheerfully. Many of them had been through similar experiences. These base hospitals continue to be filled with patients who are well on their way to recovery.

I can offer nothing but praise for the doctors and nurses who carry on these exhaustive duties, lightened only by the thought that they are doing their share in the anti-fascist struggle.

The volume of the work done by part of the American Hospital Group can be appreciated only by actual figures:

During the past month, more than 2,500 wounded have been treated by us in our hospitals, and our American sur-

geons have performed over 1,000 operations of varied types.

The statistics also reveal a true picture of our aid to the Spanish people. Of all the wounded treated by us, 80 percent are Spanish, and the remaining 20 percent Internationals. Since all the American wounded pass through our hospital chain, we can definitely say that the number of Americans wounded in this last attack was comparatively very small.

COMMON INTEREST

The common interest in this great anti-fascist struggle, which the Spaniards and the Internationals fighting side-by-side in the front lines feel, is carried back to the hospitals. The wounded who are brought to the hospital on different days report the progress of battle up to the time they were put out of action. All the boys are eager to hear the news, and their spirit reacts with the waxing and waning



of the fortunes of battle. It is difficult to restrain some of them from wanting to return to the lines, even though physically incapable, when they feel that their comrades are in need of their services. It is difficult to keep the convalescent soldiers at the hospitals; they are restless. "When do I go back to my battalion?" is the constant question. It is very common these days to see soldiers who have been wounded in different battles. Only when the soldier is so physically incapacitated that he

Indian Political Prisoners in Hunger Strike

Simla, India — One hundred and fifty three political prisoners confined in Deoli Prison Camp. About 80 kilometres from Nagpur, are on a hunger strike of solidarity with the 187 prisoners of the Andaman Island on a similar strike since the 24th. of July.

The prisoners ask:

1. The liberation of all political prisoners.
2. The abrogation of several restrictive laws and the annulment of the internment warrants.
3. The return to India of all political prisoners.

Coddling the Pirates

In spite of two notes of the British Government to Franco, demanding the release of the British cargo ship "Mon-ton", and of its crew, and also for indemnity for damages suffered by the ship or by its crew, Franco finds it convenient to sulk in complete silence. The fascists also claim that the "British Corporal" and other ships lately bombarded by fascist aviation were the victims of "Red" planes. This in spite of sworn statements by Danish control observers who witnessed the bombardment and declared that the planes were Italian.

cannot be of use in the front can we convince him to stay in the rear. Then he asks for work that will aid in the struggle. The spirit of the soldiers in the hospitals, as we see it, is so superb that we cannot see how an army of this nature can be defeated. With the progress of time, the hatred toward the fascists increases so intensely, that they will never be satisfied until the fascists are completely defeated.

DR. IRVING BUSCH

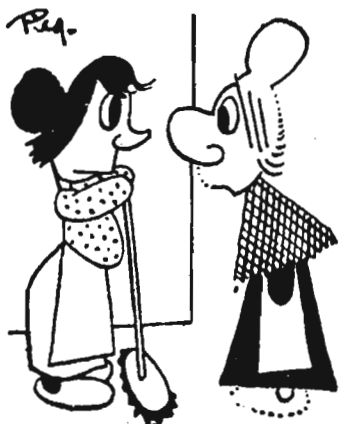


MODERN "REFUGIOS" FOR PEOPLE OF VALENCIA

Valencia is unpleasantly near the Fascist air bases in the Balearic islands. But exposed to both air and sea attack it was first shelled from the sea by the rebel cruisers "Balears" and "Canarias" and sometimes by night by ships of unknown nationality which stole up, popped a few shells of Italian manufacture into the town, and then made off. The first bombardments were in February but in anticipation of them the municipal authorities had ordered the construction of bomb-proof shelters throughout the city and harbour district. These were already under way but



after the bombardments the work was speeded up and rapidly brought to completion. At that time our only protection was a Government gunboat in the port — now there are not only the anti-aircraft batteries on the roofs which make an imposing and reassuring noise as soon as the sirens sound but the "refugios" as they are called in Spanish.



"Funny stink in Room 402, isn't there, Conchita?"

"Oh, that's the room Franco slept in one night six years ago!"



The Ministry of Public Works supplied all the material needed, the technical direction being undertaken by the City Hall. The materials used are steel, reinforced concrete, and layers of earth. Pedros, the official architect of the municipality, was put in charge of the work. After careful study he designed two models; one with a flat roof, well reinforced with steel girders; and the other with a vaulted roof. The advantage of the first is that it does not require as strong a foundation as the other type but the second model does not need as much steel in its construction. Both are equally strong. Pedros states that even a 500 kilogram bomb (the largest used by the Fascist aviation) dropped from a

height of 750 meters or more, will not penetrate such a roof.

The average "refugio" can hold 500 to 700 people. One has a capacity of 1,100 people. They are equipped with comfortable benches, electric fans, running water, toilets, first aid kits, etc., so that even a sojourn of several hours in them is no great hardship. There are two doors to facilitate entrance and they are kept scrupulously clean. There are now 41 "refugios" completed or near completion in Valencia and its port, duly posted with signs to indicate their whereabouts, so that most people can find one quickly not too far from their homes. Plans for the construction of more are under way so that the entire population can be accommodated if necessary.

It is curious to observe the care with which buildings destined to such a grim purpose have been decorated. One would expect them to be grey and forbidding but on the contrary they have quite an inviting appearance. The "Valencianos" have softened their severity by designing them in the modern style and painting them with bright colours inside and out, red, white, green, and blue. The floors are covered with shining tiles. Some of the guards attached to the shelters have even placed pots of flowers in the doorway.



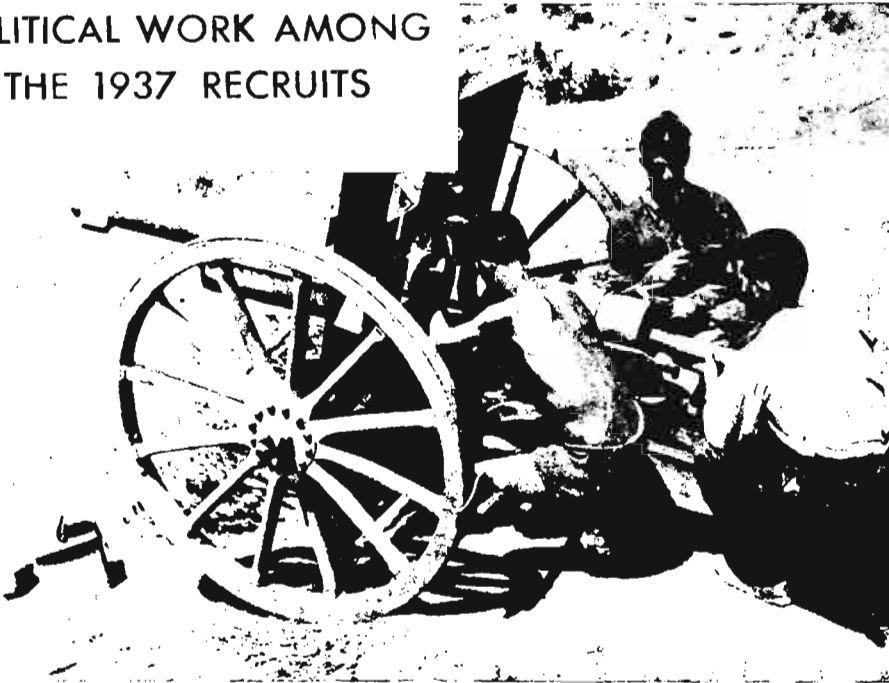
WHO DID IT?

Valencia, August 25.—We are informed from Gibraltar that to celebrate the anniversary of the rebellion in La Linea de Concepcion a large monarchical flag was displayed on one of the most central buildings. After a short time it mysteriously disappeared and a republican one appeared in its place.



The Black Hat: "Goddamn it, how many times do I have to tell you, I don't wanna hear about furnished rooms for rent, all modern conveniences and hot running water!"

POLITICAL WORK AMONG THE 1937 RECRUITS



The recruiting of the 1937 draft is to begin shortly, and then the new soldiers will be sent to all Brigades.

The General Commissariat orders the Commissars of all ranks to begin immediately the preparatory work for the reception of the new recruits, and to lay the groundwork for the organisation of good political work among them.

In particular all Commissars are required to take the following steps:

1. To organise a reception for the new recruits on the day of their arrival, and in addition to arrange a series

of meetings in the Battalions and Companies between the soldiers and the newcomers. The new recruits should become familiar with the Brigade's tradition of struggle and with the tasks of the People's Army.

2. During the first days after the recruits' arrival, the Battalion Commissars should deliver talks in which the following questions will be explained:

- (a) Why is the Government's People's Army fighting?
- (b) Why are the generals and the rebel insurgents against the Government?
- (c) Why are the peasants interested in the victory of the People's Front?
- (d) Why are the workers

defending the Republic against Fascism?

(e) Why is our war a war of national independence?

(f) At the same time new soldiers should become familiar with the organisation of the People's Army and should understand why iron discipline and a good military training are necessary, and how the political and cultural work is organised in the Army.

3. From the first day of the arrival of the recruits the Brigade and Battalion Commissars, with the help of the Company Political Delegates, should carefully study the

composition of the new recruits to discover all the Fascist elements which may have penetrated into the ranks of the Army. It will be necessary to separate all these hostile elements from the units.

4. It will be necessary to make a list of all those recruits who are illiterate so that classes can be organised for them.

5. It will be necessary to arrange for the co-operation of the recruits in the production of the wall newspapers and the Brigade newspapers, and the same time they will also send their correspondence to "Vanguardia".

6. The Commissars at the

fronts, of the Army Corps, and Divisions, must constantly supervise the political work among the recruits and systematically inform the General Commissariat of the results of this work.

From VANGUARDIA
Official Organ of the
War Commissariat.

No Sea-bathing, Orders Gen. Franco

Gibraltar, August 27.—The number of refugees from the rebel zone is continually on the increase. More than a hundred have come over in the past week, many of them swimming across the bay of Algeciras, who tell of the crimes committed in rebel territory. On account of these numerous escapes the Franco "authorities" have prohibited sea bathing.

C. I. O. SIGNS UP 49 CAB OPERATORS IN NEW-YORK CITY

Shorter hours, closed shop and minimum wage guarantees were won for 10,000 cab drivers in New York City by the Transport Workers Union, a C. I. O. affiliate. The drivers also won a yearly vacation with pay of 25 dollars.



"He's a hereditary dope, just like Queipo de Llano."

N. Y. SHOE WORKERS VOTE FOR CIO

The workers in 91 shoe factories in Greater New-York voted for the C. I. O. as their official collective bargaining agency against the A. F. of L. by a vote of 6,802 to 690. The vote will affect 10,000 workers of the shoe industry in New York city. Only two shops remain under the jurisdiction of the A. F. of L. involving a total of 85 workers. In one of the shops the majority against the C. I. O. was so small that an appeal will be taken.

ENGLISH BASE HOSPITAL GETS ITS OWN FARM

Valencia (August 26).—The new English base hospital behind the Center front is setting up its own farm. They already possess a flock of sheep and five pigs. With a minimum of one hundred and fifty patients, and a domestic and medical staff to correspond, they find this more economical than buying meat daily. They hope to enlarge the farm within the next week.

As another step towards solving the food problem a system

care of the wounded and general work is being held up. Of course things are better than they were. We started work on this hospital with a transport section consisting of one small donkey. But we are still in urgent need of ambulances and trucks. Transport comes first on the list of things needed that we have sent to the Spanish Medical Committee in London. After that we have asked for clothes for the wounded, a new set of surgical instruments, sops, and cigarettes.



Goebbels. Nazi Loud-Speaker.

of barter has been started in the village. The English, well-supplied with sugar and dried beans, barter these in the village for all necessary fresh food, such as eggs and milk.

Developments in the hospital itself go on everyday. There is now an isolation wing, with its own kitchen, bathroom, etc. In addition to the X-Ray room a pharmacy has been installed. A disused building is being turned into a garage capable of housing twenty-five ambulances.



"We hope we'll have something to put in it when it's finished", says one of the doctors. "Our chief trouble at the moment is transport. Just now both



"The Great Maja Leads Us On!"

Figures of the Earth

From "Campos de Soria"

Figures of the earth against the sky:
Two slow oxen patiently are plowing
On the dry hillock, as autumn begins.
And between the massive black heads, bowed down,
Beneath the heavy, oppressive yoke
A basket, woven of reeds and broom,
Hangs heavily, the cradle of the boy-child.
And behind the slowly-moving oxen
A man walks, bent earthward,
And a woman scatters, in the open furrows,
The life-giving seed.
Beneath a cloud of scarlet and flame,
In the fluid green and gold of the sun's descending,
The shadows loom like giants.

ANTONIO MACHADO

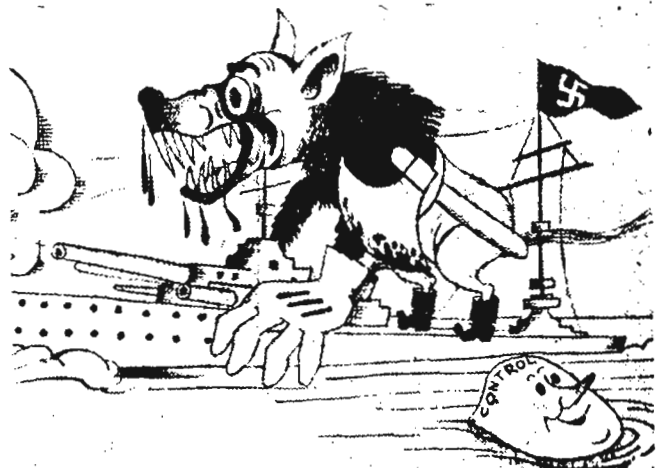
WON'T DO TO HURT THE MOORS' FEELINGS

Valencia, August 26.—As a delicate attention to the Moors brought to Spain by Franco and his generals to kill Spaniards, the iconography of the rebel zone has suffered a curious change. The severed heads of Mohammedans that are usually found in religious pictures of Saint James the Moorkiller under the hoofs of the horse ridden by the Saint have been painted out. Saint James the Moorkiller now rides a cloud instead of a prancing white horse.

LARGE PART OF RAILWAYS IN KAZAKHSTAN COMPLETED

Of the 210 mile- railway line from Rubstovka to Ridder, in Kazakhstan, which is to be completed in five months, 160 miles have already been laid. On this section, all the station buildings, pumps, power stations, clubs, schools and dwellings have been built.

The remaining 50 miles to Ridder will be the most difficult of the line. Here a way will have to be cut through the northern alps of the Altai Mountain Range and 30,000,000 cubic feet of rock blasted and cleared away.





The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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MADRID - AFTER THREE YEARS

By Leland Stowe

Just a month ago I sailed from New York on my way back to Madrid, after an absence of three long years. I've been asked to tell what it feels like to return to Spain in the midst of a war which is both a civil war and a foreign invasion. To do that let me give you the contrasts which have swarmed upon me ever since I rode in from Valencia ten days ago.

I first came to Madrid in February, 1929. I was the Paris correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune at that time. There had been an unsuccessful revolt against the military dictator, Primo de Rivera. In the next six years I visited Spain often — just before the Republic and in its early years. My last journalistic visit was to report the popular uprising of October, 1934. Madrid was under martial law. The Civil Guards, as nervous as a bunch of raw recruits, were shooting at shadows — including their own! Pedestrians walked through the streets, always in the middle of the street, with their hands held above their heads — just so the guardians of the law would have no excuse for shooting them in the back. Yet there was no serious trouble in Madrid. The people's revolt against a reactionary anti-republican government had not been synchronized throughout the country, and it failed here before it began. Well, that was the Madrid that I saw last. A Madrid under martial law — nervous, tense and gloomy.

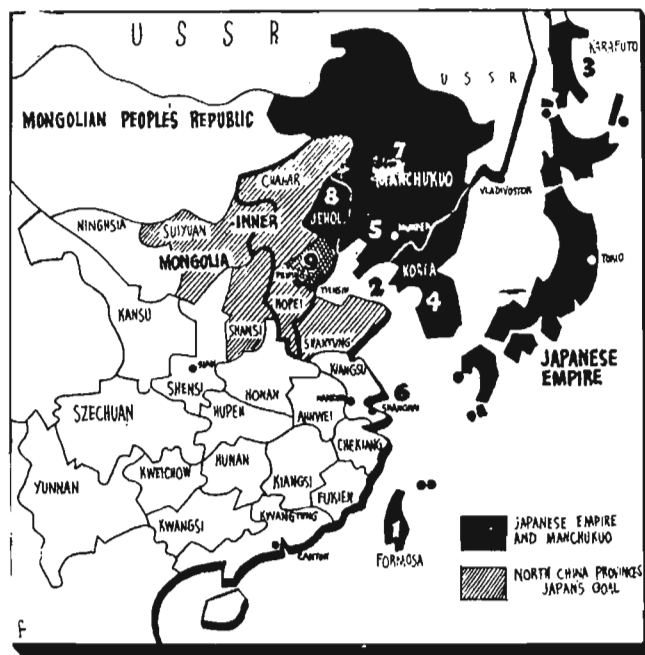
Ten days ago I came back to a Madrid which has had a powerful, mechanized army —

a large part of it composed of mercenaries and foreign fascists — hammering at its gates for nine long months! What did I find? I heard the guns booming on the outskirts of

the city, morning and night. But the people of Madrid were going about their affairs as calmly as if they were in St. Louis or San Francisco. There was no tenseness about the men and women on the streets, nor about the children skipping rope in the squares near the Puerta del Sol. There was no gloom in their faces, nor in the air. Why this amazing change in attitude? I think the reason is perfectly simple. In 1934 the cause of the common people of Spain had been defeated once more, as on so many countless times before in this nation's unhappy history. In August, 1937, the common people of Spain have shown a strength unprecedented in centuries of unequal struggle. Today they know that no army of Spaniards — I say *Spaniards* — is as powerful as their own. They are equally confident that the Italian and German Fascists, who constitute the backbone of Franco's rebel forces, cannot defeat them in the end. This is the spirit of Madrid, the bravest city in the world.

You will say, "Now don't get emotional on us!" No, I don't intend to get emotional either. I'll simply try to give you some of my own experiences and observations. First of all, there's a lot of talk in America and other foreign lands about *when* Madrid will fall. Most of it comes from people who know nothing about the Spanish people — and nothing about Madrid. Let me say right now that I've met a large number of foreign correspondents since I came here — and I haven't met a single newspaperman who

CHINA TODAY



Japan's march in China: 1. Formosa ceded to Japan in 1895. 2. Port Arthur and Kwantung Peninsula leased by Japan in 1905. 3. Karafuto ceded to Japan in 1905 by czarist Russia. 4. Korea annexed by Japan in 1910. 5. Mukden seized by Japan in 1931. 6. Shanghai bombarded by Japan in 1932. 7. Manchuria annexed by Japan as puppet state of "Manchukuo" in 1933. 8. Jehol province annexed by Manchukuo in 1933. 9. "East Hopei Autonomous Anti-Comintern Government" formed by Japan in 1935. The present invasion by Japan seeks to conquer the North China provinces of Hopei and Chahar, shown by the heavy black line. The Hopei-Chahar Political Council was formed in 1935 comprising Hopei province, except the twenty-two provinces held by the East Hopei "government", and part of Chahar, except that under de facto Japanese control. The shaded portion shows the five northern provinces, Hopei, Chahar, Shantung, Suiyuan, and Shansi, Japan's next goal.

(Continued on page 4.)

TWO ENGLISH COMRADES RETURN TO THE FIGHT

FRY AND RUTHERFORD UNDAUNTED DESPITE
LONG STAY IN FASCIST PRISON

The capture of a section of No. 2 Company was one of the severest blows suffered by the British Battalion in the early days of the Jarama action.



Employing the ruse of singing the "International" and advancing with anti-fascist salute towards our lines, the Moors succeeded in cutting off some 30 or 40 of our comrades, including comrades Fry and Renton, the company Commander and Political Commissar respectively.

The fate of these comrades was for long a matter of deep concern to us, and the anxiety was not lessened by press reports received later, to the effect that while some of the men had been shot immediately in being captured, or in resisting capture, others had been taken to rebel territory and imprisoned there. What then were our thoughts, we who know the torture and bestiality which is characteristic of the fascist treatment of prisoners; we who can never for-

get the concentration camps, the whip, and the axe; we who remember Thaelmann, Prestes and Rakosi?

On May 30th, twenty-three of those comrades arrived in London from the living tomb of fascism. They had been released in exchange for fascist prisoners held in Spanish Government territory, and the tale of their treatment was such that even a reactionary Tory M. P. said of them "They may be socialists and communists, but no British subject can be permitted to be treated as they have been treated".



In prison they were practically left to starve. Their wounds were unattended. They slept on the ground without straw or covering. The sanitary arrangements were the most primitive, and during all the months of their confinement they had no means at their disposal for a proper wash. Almost all fell ill with



Children playing on the pedestal of the statue of Dona Petronila, first queen of Aragon, completely demolished by fascist shells. This photograph was taken directly in front the former royal palace in Madrid.

SPANISH WORKERS LEARN MODERN PRODUCTION II

VALENCIA (sept. 2).—The Ministry of Education is giving the workers of the war factories the chance to increase their efficiency by opening intensive courses in modern methods of production. The classes will be held in the factories after regular working hours, subsidized by the Ministry of Public Education. Teachers and equipment are furnished by the Ministry.

Spanish workers have shown remarkable technical capacity under the demands of war. Machinery has been remodelled to fill the necessities of war production. New machines have been devised and constructed. Engineers have been few. The workers have proved themselves inventive and fully capable of meeting the difficult war situation.

fever, others contracted lung trouble causing the deaths often of their number. The health of some of them has been permanently impaired.

Comrades Fry and Rutherford have now returned to the International Brigade. Last week they arrived in Albacete, more eager and more determined to fight against Fascism. Now, more clearly than ever, they realise the need for struggle. They KNOW fascism.

Comrade Fry was Commander of No. 2 Company and was captured with his section. He was wounded in the arm during the action, and his wound will remain a permanent ugly scar, due to the studied mat-tention of his fascist captors.

Comrade Rutherford was the youngest comrade in the section and at the time of his capture was only nineteen years of age. He could quite easily have remained in Britain, one of the heroic members of the British Battalion who had remained true and firm even in the prison of fascism. He chose to return to Spain, still young, but old in the anti-fascist struggle.

These two comrades are an inspiration to us and a credit to the whole International Brigade. We welcome them back as true and tried anti-fascist fighters, we welcome them as heroes of our glorious British Battalion.

A. D.

ROAR, CHINA!

Roar, China!

Roar, old lion of the East!

Snort fire, yellow dragon of the Orient,

Tired at last of being bothered.

Since when did you ever steal anything
From anybody.

Sleepy wise old beast

Known as the porcelain-maker,

Known as the poem-maker,

Known as maker of firecrackers?

A long time since you cared

About taking other people's lands

Away from them.

THEY must've thought you didn't care

About your own land either—

So THEY came with gunboats,

Set up Concessions,

Zones of Influence,

International Settlements,

Missionary houses,

Banks,

And Jim Crow Y. M. C. A.'s.

THEY beat you with malacca canes

And dared you to raise your head—

Except to cut it off.

Even the yellow men came

To take what the white men

Hadn't already taken.

The yellow men dropped bombs on Chapel.

The yellow men called you the same names

The white men did:

DOG! DOG! DOG!

COOLIE DOG!

RED! LOUSY RED!

RED 'COOLIE DOG!

And in the end you had no place

To make your porcelain,

Write your poems,

Or shoot your firecrackers on holidays.

In the end you had no peace

Or calm left at all.

PRESIDENT, KING, MIKADO

Thought you really were a dog.

THEY kicked your ass daily

Via radiophone, via cablegram, via gunboats

by

LANGSTON
HUGHES

M A D R I D
A U G U S T 29
1937



In the harbor, via malacca canes.

THEY thought you were a tame lion,

Sleepy, easy, tame old lion!

Ha! Ha!

Ha-aaa-aa-a!... Ha!

Laugh, little coolie boy on the docks of Shanghai, laugh!

You're no tame lion.

Laugh, child slaves in the factories of the foreigners!

You're no tame lion.

Laugh—and roar, China!

Time to spit fire!

Open your mouth, old dragon of the East,

To swallow up the gunboats in the Yangtze!

Swallow up the foreign planes in your sky!

Eat bullets, old maker of firecrackers—

And spit out freedom in the face of your enemies.

Break the chains of the East, little coolie boy!

Break the chains of the East, red generals!

Break the chains of the East, child slave in the factories!

Smash the iron gates of the Concessions!

Smash the pious doors of the missionary houses!

Smash the revolving doors of the Jim Crow Y.M.C.A.'s.

Crush the enemies of land and bread and freedom!

Stand up and roar, China!

You know what you want!

The only way to get it

Is to take it!

Roar, China!

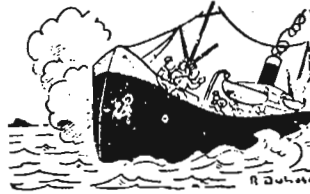
PROVOCATIONS AND PROVOCATIONS — As Seen by the Cartoonists



"Oh—so you won't let me in, eh?
By god, that's provocation!"



Journalist: "Now I see what's
happened: the rabbit provoked
the hunter."



"Quick, boys, lower the boats!
Mussolini has just issued another
peace message!"



Mussolini (to Japan): "So, you
too are going into this civilisa-
tion business, I see."

MADRID — AFTER THREE YEARS

(Continued from page 1.) thinks that Madrid will ever be captured by a frontal attack. All of them are agreed that Madrid has been made into an impregnable fortress — even those who came here as skeptics months ago; some of them men who had no advance prejudices about Republican Spain.

BETTING ON MADRID

I hadn't been here long before I discovered why these veteran war correspondents are betting on the invincibility of Madrid. I wanted to see for myself. I remembered how often I had come into this city by train. The South Express from Paris creeps across the flat Castilian plain on the final miles of its run. Somehow you get the idea that Madrid is the most unprotected city in the

ment. They are about six feet thick and jut out from each side of the street. Sometimes the barricades leave an opening in the center, large enough for one auto to pass through. Sometimes one wing stands ten feet in front of the other; that makes an overlapping wall, while still leaving a passage for emergency traffic. The concrete and stone walls are pierced with small openings for rifles. In spots they have narrow eyelids, three feet long, which will permit machine guns to sweep, fan-shape, the street in front. Only the direct hit of heavy artillery would have the slightest effect upon these barricades — and there are triple rows of them on every main artery entering the city. In addition, all side streets in between them are walled off — miles and miles of barricades. This is how Madrid had been



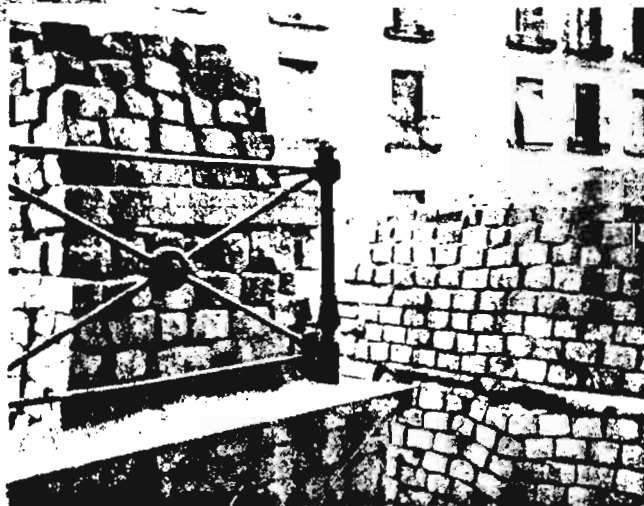
UELAND STOWE, ace foreign correspondent of the New York Herald-Tribune and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Journalism, who recently spent some time in Madrid.

transformed into the most formidable walled city of modern times. It is the first metropolitan Verdun in history. And though I had neglected to notice it on my past visits, this city of unconquerable will actually stands on rising grounds. This is why I say that if Franco had an army of one million men I still do not believe that he could break through the barricades of Madrid. And this is why the Madrilenos confidently declare that Madrid will be the graveyard of Fascist foreign aggression.



world. All last winter, back home, I read about the miraculous defense of Madrid and wondered how it could possibly have been achieved. Now I know how it was done. I've discovered the street barricades of this amazing city, and I've examined them for myself.

Start from the Gran Via Madrid's Broadway — and walk north, west or south. Within five minutes' walk, you will come upon the first barricades. They are six or eight feet high; made of cobblestones and ce-



STREET BARRICADES IN MADRID

UNIVERSITY CITY

Yesterday I walked for two hours through the trenches of University City. Like so many parts of Madrid, University City has its personal ghost for me. The last time I visited that wide, sloping campus, with its great, modern college buildings, was in February, 1931. And the ghost that I met yesterday was the ghost of Alfonso XIII, the last of the Bourbon kings of Spain. For on that February day six years ago Jay Allen, of the "Chicago Tribune", and myself had the last interview that Alfonso ever gave as king of Spain. And when he gave it both Allen and I were convinced that Alfonso's crown was tottering over his left ear. Just six weeks later it crashed to the ground and Alfonso went out as the republic of great hopes and mortal enemies came in.

I thought of all that as I walked through the clean, deep trenches of University City yesterday. I thought of that as I looked at the ruined hulk of the College of Philosophy, torn and twisted by a Fascist general who claims to be fighting for civilization. Alfonso's reign had left 45 percent of 28,000,000 Spaniards unable to read and write—but he was proud of this show-place university, built for the lucky few. My guide was a Madrilenos who had been a pharmacist before he was sent into the front lines with four cartridges in his pocket to save the republic. Without thinking I remarked, "Well, at least Alfonso built some good forts for the defenders of democracy, even if he didn't know it." Like a flash came Rodrigo's reply: "No, no. Alfonso didn't build this university", he said. "We paid for it and we built it—the people of Spain." I didn't have any answer for Rodrigo. As an American, what do you think? Who paid for University City? To me it seems clear enough—the same people who are defending it today. But Rodrigo wasn't finished. He went on, and there was bitterness in his

"YOUNG GIANTS OF SPAIN'S PEOPLES' ARMY"



MODESTO



LISTER



DURAN



CAMPESSINO

voice. "The Fascists didn't have to come this way. We didn't want the university to be harmed. What could we do?"

This morning I took another walk. I wanted to see what was left of the home of a very famous Spanish nobleman I had once met at the Hotel Ritz in Paris. The world knows him as the Duke of Alba. I remember very plainly my impression of that carefree playboy with the polished manners and the too-charming smile. To me he looked like the Duke of Nothing-at-All. But he had inherited riches in land and art that were fabulous, and among them one of the largest and most beautiful palaces in all Madrid. This is the Palacio de Leria—and it was this palace that I went to see. I went alone; without a guide or unannounced.

The Duke of Alba, like virtually all of Spain's titled nobility, is an ardent supporter

of the rebel leader, General Franco. Some say that the Duke has given considerable of his wealth to supply the rebels with airplanes, guns and bombs. If that's true there's plenty of irony in this story. Last winter Franco's aviators dumped hundreds of pounds of inflammable bombs upon the Duke's palace—and the Republican Spaniards, whom the Duke despises, fought valiantly to save his priceless art treasures from destruction. They saved a small part of them; but today the Palacio de Leria stands, a burned-out hideous shell, in the lovely green gardens which surround it. Heaps of refuse and wreckage are piled up thirty feet high on three sides. The roof and the upper three stories of a palace with more than 100 rooms have been completely destroyed. On the second floor I found the private chapel what is

left of it—a chapel in which the dukes of Alba have worshipped for hundreds of years. Two walls collapsed, but by a miracle the chapel's rare paintings escaped. Now the walls have been rebuilt and the republican government has built a temporary roof to protect the chapel which the Duke of Alba's hired mercenaries destroyed. Everything in this once magnificent palace is now devastation and horror. I stood there and sought to control the indignation that swelled up inside me. At my side stood a Spanish workman, one of the two guardians of the ruins. "It is criminal", he said. That was all. Later he told me how the government had placed in safe-keeping all the ancient tapestries, paintings and statuary that could be salvaged from the ruins. Before I left I asked the guard to what political party he belonged. "I am a Social-

list", he said. ...And in rebel Spain Franco claims that anyone who is a Socialist is a terrorist and a Red, deserving to be shot. I am only reporting what I have seen with my own eyes.

SHIRT-SLEEVE GENERALS

And when I report what I have seen, on this return to Republican Spain, I must tell you about the young generals who are making history in the Loyalist army. Back home we hear surprisingly little about them—but they are the Washingtons, the Anthony Waynes and the Ethan Allens of the Spanish war. The Loyalist army has at least half a dozen men who already have won great fame among their soldiers and the people here. Thursday I lunched with one of them—Colonel Antonio Ortega, commander of the Sixth Army Corps and the recent substitute for General Miaja as commander-in-chief of the Central Army. A few days earlier I met another—a former quarryman named Lister—a bold, two-fisted fighter who commands the 11th Division. In addition to these there is Campesino, a peasant who began the war as a private and is now one of the most formidable commanders in all Spain. There is Modesto, also the son of peasants, a novice at arms one year ago and today commander of the 5th Army Corps on



Scenes of Destruction in Madrid after a particularly heavy fascist bombardment.

(Concluded on next page.)

MADRID AFTER 3 YEARS

(Continued from page 5.)

the Madrid front. There is Duran, one of the most gifted composers of music in Europe—now a brilliant officer and leader of men... Lister, Campesino, Modesto, Duran—they are all in their early thirties and all warriors who sprang from the people themselves. They are the shirt-sleeve generals of Republican Spain.

Few things can be more dramatic than the stories of these young giants of Spain's people's army. I should like to tell you more—much more—but space will not permit it. I want merely to give you a hint of the determination which bristles in every fibre of these shirt-sleeve heroes of a cause which the world said long ago was lost—and they say is already assured of victory. One and all they say—simply, sincerely, factually—"We shall win the war!—It may be long—but we will win!" They say it, as Washington said it at Valley Forge. I, for one, believe they cannot be beaten.

LIKE OUR REVOLUTION

And there's one more parallel between the battle of republican Spain and our own war for independence. Like our own Revolutionary leaders, the Loyalists have had to make an army out of untrained men—and they have done it. Like ourselves in 1776, the Spanish republicans have had to develop great military leaders out of farmers, workers and hitherto unknown civilians. They have done that, too. And just as Washington's ragged Continentals were opposed by professional soldiers—and by Hessian mercenaries—so the Loyalists are opposed by experienced army officers and by imported foreign Fascists. Like the soldiers of the American revolution, the soldiers of republican Spain refuse to believe in anything but victory. And like our founders of the American republic, they are fighting for

WANTED

Photographs of Our Dead Comrades.

The English, American and Canadian commissariat and The Volunteer for Liberty have under consideration the issuance of postcards in memory and honor of our dead comrades. In order to do this it is necessary for us to acquire a collection of photos of these comrades.

We know that many comrades have photographs as personal souvenirs of those who have fallen, and we appeal to them to lend them to us for this purpose. All photographs will surely be returned as soon as reproductions are made. Please send all photographs to:

THE VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

S. R. I. Plaza del Altozano 63 E. Albacete.

LETTERS from HOME

A New Film About Spain.

Dear S. For the past many weeks I have strongly felt that I was with you in Spain. I've been working 15 and 16 hours a day, sometimes more, with P. on a Spanish film which we have called "Heart of Spain". As you know, X brought back material on the work of the blood transfusion institute... Well, after a long time during which the first draft of the commentary and the musical score were worked out, and we all spent two solid nights until dawn revising the commen-

the right of their own people to govern themselves.

Do not think that such a cause is lost. The Spanish people have found their Washingtons and their Ethan Allens and their Anthony Waynes. The Spanish people have just begun to fight. You cannot know Spain—know its people and its history—without reaching one profound conviction. If Washington was right in 1776, then Republican Spain is right today.

tary and preparing the recording of the voice, music and sound effects, and got perhaps 12 hours of sleep in 6 days—after this week we finally emerged with a film... And after all this work and worry it's



really something to be happy about...

Everyone who has seen the film has felt tremendously torn and moved, and ready to do whatever they can for Spain. P. F., who reads the Sun and the Herald-Tribune, saw the film this afternoon and immediately wrote out a check for the American Medical Bureau. At the first small showing, when the film ended the 40 or so people in the projection room sat quiet for a full two minutes and then applauded loudly. A very well-known film star saw it today and said she was never so disturbed and moved by a film. So you see, when this film goes out, it should do a lot of good in the world...

Salud.

Aug. 2, 1937.

Transport Workers On the March.

Dear R. Right here in my union, the Transport Workers Union (where, as I wrote you, I've been working since you went away), the overwhelming march of the C. I. O. is evident every day. I enclose a calendar of achievements of



our union—all of them won without a single strike action—although we are faced now with the toughest and most notorious anti-union corporation, the B. M. T. Despite a collective bargaining election held two weeks ago under the supervision of the State Labor Relations Board, which we won by 75 per cent (the usual percentage for the union has been much higher), the B.M.T. is trying to enforce "contracts" which they had obtained by the company union in force till we came in. If they try to keep these so-called contracts, which are now illegal, there may be big things happening. On the day before the election, the B. M. T. spent thousands of dollars for a full page ad in all the city newspapers; and later the election, Menden, president of the B. M. T., had the temerity to write to John L. Lewis, asking that Lewis and the C. I. O. compel the Transport Workers Union to recognize the "contracts"!

Nationally the C. I. O. is making great headway, though not without struggle and bitter fights. The big bosses are not missing a single trick. Many workers have lost their lives, shot down without a single chance—but that hasn't stopped us from fighting for our right to organize in unions of our own choice..

L.

Aug. 11, 1937.

M.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades ★

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Madrid, September 13 - 1937

SOVIET EXPERT ANALYZES MILITARY ACTIONS IN THE NORTH AND ON THE ARAGON FRONT

By GOLUBIEV

"The offensive in the north", writes the Soviet military expert Golubiev, in a recent issue of *Izvestia*, "marks a considerable change in the strategic plans of the rebels."

Golubiev analyzes the recent military operations in Spain as follows:

"Until now, the rebels have confined themselves to attempts to inflict a decisive defeat on the Republic on the Center Front, and thus to finish the war in the shortest possible time. Their offensive on the Northern Front and their passivity on the Center Front signify the desire of the rebel military command first of all to win successes on the secondary fronts; and then, only after having gathered together all its forces, to attempt to launch an offensive on the principal front."

"As far back as January and February of this year, German fascism considered this strategy to be the only one suitable to Franco. If it was not applied until the end of March, it was only because the Italian generals considered the taking of Madrid to be as easy as that of Malaga. The defeat of Guadalajara, however, weakened the confidence of the Italian generals, and forced them to accept the German plan. The offensive of the rebels and invaders on the Northern Front can now be divided into three periods."

THREE PERIODS

"The first period began with the offensive of March 31st, continuing until April 30th. The second lasted from the last ten days in April until July. The last period began in August. During the first period the rebel Spanish troops



BELCHITE - NOW IN GOVERNMENT HANDS

played the principal part. In the second and third periods the action was carried out almost entirely by regular divisions and regiments of Italian troops, strengthened by German technique.

"As the invaders and rebels had to weaken their activity on the Northern Front because of the activity on the Madrid sector, the Government command took advantage of this to reorganize its units and to strengthen its defenses. But the time which the government command had at its disposal for this work was extremely limited; and a new offensive of Italian and rebel troops was launched before the loyal forces in the north had time to complete the job of putting these measures into effect.

"The total effective force of the

Italians and rebels concentrated for the offensive against Santander was from 50,000 to 60,000 men (among whom at least 40,000 or 45,000 were Italians), about 100 tanks, and from 250 to 300 cannon. The success of these Italian and rebel troops is certainly of great importance for the Northern Front of Republican Spain. But this does not mean that the war will end in favor of the rebels and invaders—far from it. This success is the result of the unequal effort of the forces of the regular Republican army on the different fronts. The Northern Front, where there was great backwardness in applying the principles of regular military organization and formation, was one of the weak points in this respect.

"Another weak point for the

Republican army for a considerable time was the Eastern Front (Aragon), where the organization of regular troops met with strong opposition on the part of uncontrollable and Trotskyist elements. But the latest events on this front show that these defects are rapidly on the way toward being overcome. At the moment when Republican Santander found itself in a critical situation, the Eastern (Aragon) Front carried out a great offensive action.

GREAT SUCCESSES

"The first days of this action have given the government troops great successes, which compensate in a large measure for the failures in the Santander sector."

"The center of gravity of the Spanish struggle still continues to be the Madrid front, which has so far shown itself to be unconquerable by the rebels and foreign invaders. In the July battles, great capacity was shown in large scale offensive actions. Now the Aragon front, ever more active and disposing of a powerful fighting base, is helping the Central Front. The coordinated actions of the government troops of the Central and Aragon fronts makes it permissible not only to reduce the success obtained by the rebels in the North to zero, but to affirm that Republican Spain will be completely victorious."

"Independently of its final result the offensive of the Republican troops on the eastern front is of very great importance."

"The strength of the Madrid front does not rest only in the fact that the best military units are to

(Continued on page 2.)

LETTERS from HOME

Government Unions Still Going Strong.

Dear F: It's hot as hell here in Washington, but working in a coolish apartment is different from digging dirt 200 yards from the fascist lines... News from Spain comes to this city in spasms. China has more of American invested



capital, it appears, and the newspapers are frothing at the mouth over the war in the East. A damned important spot, to be sure, but not so important as to keep ALL Spanish news from us. Of course, we get our reports. And our energy for raising money, etc., stays apacemore absorbed in the...

...People in towns are worried about S. and B. Haven't heard from them for weeks. Maybe you can help us with a bit of information on their whereabouts. Also about B. S.

The government unions are still going strong. Over thirty locals have been chartered by the United Federal Workers of America, and more are on the way. Another group -- over 5,000 strong -- may come in en masse. Which will help a great deal.

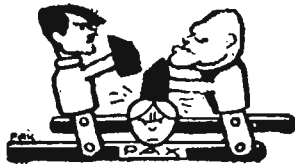
As for us here, our Union work continues full force during the summer months. I'm unemployed, but am putting my time to good advantage. It seems everybody hears I'm not working, hence I can help do this, that, and the

other thing. They're running me ragged, but it's the stuff that keeps me going. And there's so much work to be done that one almost gets discouraged and falls all over himself trying to double the pace. But it all works out somehow, and progress is made... Send us a couple of words now and then.

Your pal, L. August 19, 1937.

Learning to Fight With Other Workers.

Dear L: I have been at home five weeks now, and as a matter of fact have enjoyed this first vacation in a long time immensely. Next week, however, I expect to get some definitive word as to my chances for reinstatement in the W. P. A. I have brought my case before the City Projects Council, of which I am an individual member, and they have appealed it to W. P. A. What a feeling of gratification I felt when, upon walking into the union, I could feel that all these people were for me, that they would help me. Quite a different feeling, I assure you, from the one I experienced when



I ran around to all the big shots of my department and asked them to help me. There I received only kind words and kind wishes, but no tangible aid. This is my first personal experience with unions, and it fills me with a sense of power and pride to realize what working people can accomplish when joined together with others to fight for a common interest...

H. August 20, 1937.

FRIENDS FALL OUT

On August 26th, the British Ambassador to China, Sir Hugh Knatchbull-Hugesson, was motoring from Nanking to Shanghai, when his car was attacked by two Japanese aeroplanes, which raked the car with machine-gun fire and seriously wounded the Ambassador. The British Government subsequently sent a blunt note to the Japanese Government, of which the following is an extract.

"His Majesty's Government feel that they must take this opportunity to emphasise the wider significance of this event. It is an outstanding example of the results to be expected from indiscriminate attack from the air.

"Such events are inseparable from the practice, as illegal as it is inhuman, of failing to draw that clear distinction between combatants and non-combatants in the conduct of hostilities which international law, no less than the conscience of mankind, has always enjoined.

"The fact that in the present case no actual state of war has been declared or expressly recognised by either party to exist emphasises the inexcusable nature of what occurred."

All who read this stern condemnation must have gaped in astonishment.

Could this be the same Government that was so blind to law and justice when thousands of defenceless Abyssinians were slaughtered by the bombs and poison gas of Imperial Italy? Could it be the same Government as that whose official representative defended before the League of Nations the rape of Manchuria by Japan, the bombardment of Shanghai and the slaughter of multitudes of the

Chinese people in 1932? Could this be the Government that in the teeth of the international law and conscience of mankind, of which it now talks so smoothly, allowed Germany and Italy to wage "totalitarian" war on the Spanish people; that left unheard the dying cries of thousands upon thousands of women and children killed by German and Italian bombs at Durango, Guernica and Bilbao and by shells from German warships at Almeria?



Concrete Entrenchments Captured at Belchite.

But the British Government did more than express the excellent, but somewhat late, sentiments above. It presented demands. It wants an apology, it wants the punishment of those responsible, and it wants the assurance of the Japanese Government that nothing of the sort will ever happen again.

Why this sudden change?

First, of course, is the fact that an Ambassador of the British Empire can scarcely be placed in the same classification as those anonymous dead in Abyssinia or China, or the women and children of Spain.

And secondly, British Capital has over 100,000,000 pounds invested in Shanghai alone, and Japan's "crusade against the communist menace" in China has dissolved the hope of any profits on this and the other huge sums invested in China for a number of years, and a distinct possibility of the whole of this investment being lost for good. So perhaps we may be pardoned for doubting the genuineness of the apparent change of heart on the part of the British Government. In the past, its heart has seldom proved as susceptible as its pocket.



Quinto After the Battle.



Fascist Prisoners Captured in Aragon.

O. C. G.

GOLUBIEV ANALYZES MILITARY SITUATION IN SPAIN

(Continued from page 1.)

be found there, but also in that this front, thanks to the efforts of the parties and organisations of the People's Front, has the firmest and best organised hinterland. The condition of the army is determined by the condition of the hinterland. The base of the hinterland of the eastern (Aragones) front was Catalonia, the most industrial and the most economically developed region of Spain.

"Catalonia has an industry which is capable, by its organisation and management, not only of providing what is needed on the Aragon front, but also of being a rich source of technical and military materials for other Republican fronts. The reason for the previous passivity on the Aragon fronts was the weakness of organisation in Catalonia, which for a long time did not have a discipline firmly organised and tempered in the anti-fascist struggle.

CATALONIA AS BASE

"The lack of organisation in the Catalonian hinterland obliged the military units on the Aragon front to remain inactive before the numerous rebel forces. But the weakness of Catalonia as the base of the Aragon front and the insufficient organisation of the military units on this front were not only due to the weakness in Catalonia itself. They were also due to the fact that the central Spanish Government, led at that time by Largo Caballero, did not take the necessary steps to help Catalonia to deal with the unhealthy phenomena which existed there. The Catalonian situation underwent a radical change after the Trotskyist-Fascist putsch in May at Barcelona. This putsch revealed to the eyes of the mass of the Catalonian people, in an exceptionally vivid way, the real essence of fascist espionage in the drive of the Trotskyists and the groups of "incontrollable" whom they drew in



On the peaceful Pacific.

5TH ARMY CORPS DOCUMENTS ON ARAGON ADVANCE



REPÚBLICA ESPAÑOLA
5. CUERPO DE EJÉRCITO
DEL
CENTRO

Adjunto remito a Vd un resumen del trabajo de las Brigadas Internacionales 11ª y 15ª en el primer período de las operaciones del frente de Aragón.

En el P. de Hando, a 28 de agosto de 1937.

EL JEFE DE ESTADO MAYOR:

Comandante



SPANISH REPUBLIC
5TH ARMY CORPS
35TH DIVISION
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

INFORMATION REPORT

During the night of the 23-24 of August began our offensive on the Aragon Front.

Two International Brigades received the order to operate jointly and to take QUINTO DE EBRO, an exceptionally important fortified position closing the Saragossa road.

In the fight, which lasted from the 24th to the 26th, both brigades fulfilled their tasks to perfection.

LOSSES OF THE ENEMY: More than 1000 prisoners and about 350 dead.

ARMAMENT CAPTURED: Four 10.5 calibre guns; two damaged 7.5 guns; more than 20 automatic guns and miscellaneous material.

OUR LOSSES: in both Brigades 269 wounded and 50 dead.

The Commanding General
WALTER

August 29th 1937.

Seal of the 5th Army Corps Division B.

with them into the putsch. This created in Catalonia a situation which was favorable for the reorganisation of the whole of the Catalonian hinterland and front.

BREAK NOW MADE

"After the events in May the new Negrin Government concerned itself with this question. The results of its work were not long in making themselves felt. The prolonged absence of Republican activity on the eastern front was utilised by the rebel command to fortify the whole line of front occupied by its troops. The first task of the Republican forces was to break the front fortified by the Fascist units and occupy the most important sectors. This break has been made in the taking of Belchite, which weakens the whole system of rebel fortifications on the eastern front, and to some extent facilitates the development of the Republican operations against Zaragoza and Teruel. From the beginning of the offensive until now, the Republican units have advances 15 to 20 kilometres on a front of 80 to 100 square kilometres. We should shortly expect fresh activity among the Republican forces, directed in the first place against Zaragoza. The taking of this town after the fall of Belchite would mean a wide strategic breach in the whole eastern front of the rebels, and would be a fresh blow to their prestige. This explains why Italian and rebel Spanish troops have been rushed to the eastern front.

"We must expect fighting during the coming days between the Republican troops and these reserves. Whatever the result of this fighting, the present Republican offensive shows that this front, which was one of the weakest Republican Spain, has moved into action. We must hope that this time the Republican command will take full advantage of all the possibilities."



First Cap. Don't bother, he's only exercising his rights as a belligerent.

NEGROES IN SPAIN

In July, on the boat with me coming from New York, there was a Negro from the far West on his way to Spain as a member of the 9th Ambulance Corps of the American Medical Bureau. He was one of a dozen in his unit of American doctors, nurses, and ambulance drivers offering their services to Spanish democracy.

When I reached Barcelona a few weeks later, in time for my first air-raid and the sound of bombs falling on a big city, one of the first people I met was a young Porto Rican of color acting as interpreter for the Loyalist troops.

A few days later in Valencia, I came across two intelligent young colored men from the West Indies, aviators, who had come to give their services to the fight against Fascism.

ALL FIGHT FASCISM

And now, in Madrid, Spain's besieged capital, I've met wide-awake Negroes from various parts of the world — New York, our Middle West, the French West Indies, Cuba, Africa — some stationed here, others on leave from their battalions — all of them here because they know that if Fascism creeps across Spain, across Europe, and then across the world, there will be no place left for intelligent young Negroes at all. In fact, no decent place for any Negroes — because Fascism preaches the creed of Nordic supremacy and a world for whites alone.

In Spain, there is no color prejudice. Here in Madrid, heroic and bravest of cities, Madrid where the shells of Franco plow through the roof-tops at night, Madrid where you can take a street car to the trenches, this Madrid to whose defense lovers of freedom and democracy all over the world have sent food and money and men — here to this Madrid have come Negroes from all the world to offer their help.

"DELUDED MOORS"

On the opposite side of the trenches with Franco, in the company of the professional soldiers of Germany, and the illiterate troops of Italy, are the deluded

and driven Moors of North Africa. An oppressed colonial people of color being used by Fascism to make a colony of Spain. And they are being used ruthlessly, without pity. Young boys, men from the desert, old men, and even women,

compose the Moorish hordes brought by the reactionaries from Africa to Europe in their attempt to crush the Spanish people.

I did not know about the Moorish women until, a few days ago I went to visit a prison

hospital here in Madrid filled with wounded prisoners. There were German aviators that bombarded the peaceful village of Colmenar Viejo and machined-gunned helpless women as they fled along the road. One of these aviators spoke English. I asked him why he fired on women and children. He said he was a professional soldier who did what he was told. In another ward, there were Italians who joined the invasion of Spain because they had no jobs at home.

WHAT THEY SAID

But of all the prisoners, I was most interested in the Moors, who are my own color. Some of them, convalescent, in their white wrappings and their bandages, moved silently like dark shadows down the hall. Others lay quietly suffering in their beds. It was difficult to carry on any sort of conversation with them because they spoke little or no Spanish. But finally, we came across a small boy who had been wounded at the battle of Brunete — he looked to be a child of ten or eleven, a bright smiling child who spoke some Spanish.

"Where did you come from?", I said.

He named a town I could not understand in Morocco.

"And how old are you?"

"Thirteen", he said.

"And how did you happen to be fighting in Spain?"

BRING MOORISH WOMEN

Then I learned from this child that Franco had brought Moorish women into Spain as well as men — women to wash and cook for the troops.

"What happened to your mother", I said.

The child closed his eyes. "She was killed at Brunete", he answered slowly.

Thus the Moors die in Spain, men, women, and children, victims of Fascism, fighting not for freedom — but against freedom — under a banner that holds only terror and segregation for all the darker peoples of the earth.

A great many Negroes know better. Someday the Moors will know better, too. All the Franco's in the world cannot blow out the light of human freedom.

LANGSTON HUGHES



Women and Children Leaving Belchite.

SPANISH STUDENTS PRESENT BANNER TO 15th BRIGADE

The following letter has been sent by the University Students Federation to the 15th Brigade:

"University Students Federation (F. U. E.). General Secretariat, Madrid. 'Lagasca'.

To the 15th International Brigade.

Dear Comrades:

The students of the Lagasca Institute, though feeling that this step only represents the smallest part of tribute which your solidarity deserves, have decided to express our people's gratitude to you by undertaking the patronage of your Brigade, and to symbolize this action with the presentation of a banner. Although the fact that you are fighting by our side is a sufficient sign that the justice of our cause has reached the hearts of the peoples of all countries, your generous courage is a living example to those democracies which close their eyes with indifference to the titanic struggle of a people who once again are echoing the historic songs of their fight for independence. But today it is not easy to confine within the frontiers of one nation the political and social consequences of a violent convulsion, even though it has its origin in the treason of a few privileged military cliques. When the struggle ends with the victory of the Spanish Republic, those democracies will realize the beneficial repercussions of this fresh bloodshed in our history. On that day, comrades of the International Brigades, after a proud farewell, you will be able to return to your own countries, offering your example, linked with all the bonds of brotherhood to our heroic fighters, as a damning contrast to the conduct of certain others.

When you accept our simple gift, we ask you to see in its very simplicity an expression of the sincerity and warmth of our friendship.

Our union in true comradeship is the anxious desire of those who send you their admiration and cordial Anti-Fascist greetings.

On behalf of the students of the Section (signed), *Camilo Rodriguez-Cobacho*."

THE CHILDREN FROM NOVELDA

There has been no need to teach them one thing; they have seen it with their eyes and felt it in their hearts: only the "best people" can make a career for themselves. One of them says with a delightful innocence: "We too have got a right to be engineers, and doctors, and all the rest that's wanted. That's why I want to go to Russia."

★

They were brought from Novelda to Valencia. The Ministry of Health and the Council of Social Assistance asked the Red Aid for sixty children to complete the parties which are going to Russia and Mexico, above all for orphans of the Militia, and in any case workers' children who could not benefit by remaining in Spain. The Executive Committee of Red Aid asked the District Committees for children. All the children in Spain would like to go on these expeditions. But it was necessary to choose.

★

The first choice was made. Standards and conditions were decided on. But the children's imaginations tried to adjust themselves to them. Six children from Novelda who were over the required age (from 8 to 13 for the U. S. S. R., and from 5 to 13 for

Mexico) succeeded in getting themselves enrolled. They came to Valencia. They were thinking of nothing but the happy hour when they would be able to write from the land of Socialism: "We are in the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics: we are working, studying, and when we come back to Spain we shall be real men."

★

Then it turned out that six of the children were over age. They were told that they would have to go back home. An enquiry was made into their means, and it was found that they were not precisely necessitous cases. Nevertheless they had been inspired with an illusion, with the finest hope in their young lives. Later they would have to be satisfied. In the meanwhile they would have to go home.

★

But the children from Novelda not only brought desires and imaginations. They also brought the spirit of rebellion. All of them workers' children, brought up amid the silent protest of the oppressed, they considered that the hour had come to express it. One day they disappeared from the home they were living with other children. A few minutes later they

were at the Ministry asking for a hearing, with their political commissar at their head: "We've come to see what's happening, to find out why we're not being sent to the Soviet Union. It's true we're thirteen, but we're not fourteen yet."

After they had been to the Ministry they went to Red Aid another day. We saw them arrive in marching order. The leader, who was the tallest, had a very dissatisfied expression and was wearing his red shirt.

"We want to see the responsible person", they said.

"Which responsible person?"

"The president, the secretary, whichever it is. But we want to see someone. Tell them we're the boys from Novelda."

They made a big impression at the Red Aid. Word went round all the offices. The typists crowded into the corridor to see what would happen. The boys came along very serious. They all had intelligent and determined faces. One of them was asked to come forward.

"I am the commissar", he said.

★

The commissar, Francisco Abat, was the one with the red shirt. He was one of the biggest and most resolved among them. He

entered with all the dignity and firmness of a man conscious of his responsibility and of the justice of his mission.

"I'm the Commissar of the Novelda boys", he said, "And we've come to protest because we're not being sent to Russia with the rest. Bigger ones than us are going. And we want to know why we're not going."

★

In the home they constantly resort to this comparison. Actually there are bigger ones than they going, but those are younger. The Novelda boys look at them with scorn and use them as a weapon. They tell us:

"Look at that big ninny. He's about two inches taller than me. He's fat and flabby and no good for anything. What sort of an engineer is he going to make?"

They all want to be engineers. One of them explains:

"I want to be an engineer because I'd like it, and because engineers are needed in Spain, and because it's the career of the future."

"And why not a lawyer?"

Pah - a lawyer...! No, they'd all laugh at me."

★



SPANISH CHILDREN IN AN INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE CHILDREN'S HOME

We try to find out their vocation. Vocation: that romantic lie of bourgeois society. No - the Novelda boys want to be this or that (engineers, pilots, doctors) because it is work which is going to be useful for the new society. We say to one of them:

"Well, let's see. A doctor's work is useful and humanitarian. We're always going to need doctors. Why would you rather be a pilot?"

And he tells us why. Since he began to realise what the fighting was about, he has seen that the pilots carry death and victory through the air; that the Fascist pilots murder our children with impunity, and it is the duty of the loyal pilots to go up and meet them and frustrate their crimes. He has heard people talk about the stirring battles in the air between our chasers and the German and Italian chasers and trimotors,

CHILDREN FROM NOVELDA

and he would like to fly in one of those little white birds of defence and liberty.

★

Another boy has been listening to us very intently. His greatest wish is to go to the U. S. S. R. It was a dream which he did not believe until he found himself in the motor coach which brought him to Valencia. In order to get into that coach he had to subtract a few months from his age; now he is thinking of what he can do to get on to the boat as well. He heard us asking about the medical profession and thought:

"If they want doctors!..."

Perhaps it was with this in mind that he told us he wanted to be a doctor. The others laughed. One of them remarked:

"If somebody gets ill, you'll have to look after him."

★

They have all acquired a great sense of discipline... except when they are told they must go home. The commissar, whom they themselves elected during the journey, takes care that the others behave themselves well, although never so well as the women in charge of the dormitories would like. Very seriously he tells us that he spent sleepless nights because a comrade was ill and he had to stay by his bedside to tell the comrade in charge of the home every time the patient wanted something. He speaks in an almost fatherly tone which contrasts with his size and his mischievous expression. And when Mary tries to make him

understand the necessity of respecting the orders of superiors, of being disciplined and behaving like a real young soldier, he replies in a self possessed, serious way, attempting to refute the arguments which stand in the way of him going to the Soviet Union:

"Why, exactly, do you want to go to the U. S. S. R.?"

"Because the U. S. S. R. is the country of today and tomorrow; because when I come back to Spain I shall be a man and teach my comrades what we don't know now; because there are no possibilities here."

★

Another of them, Vicente Vaillo, joins in the conversation. He begins by showing us his membership cards of the U. G. T. the United Youth and the S. R. I. We say to him:

"Look, you're already growing up, and in Spain too we are fighting for a society in which all children will have the opportunity of studying and "becoming men". But we've got to fight to create this society. And I've seen boys like you at the front. But let's suppose that there's no reason for boys going to the front..."

"No, no", interrupts the boy, "There isn't any reason for them to go to the front, while there are so many men hanging about here wearing ties, and no one knows what they're doing..."

★

A small boy with a quiet, intelligent face joins in. He is not one

of those who are excluded from the expedition. He puts in his word when he thinks the moment is ripe.

"I'd go to the front", he says, "I'd go to win the war and then come back to settle things with the men around here..."

"Yes", we interrupt, "But the war isn't won only at the front. And what about those who have work to do behind the lines?"

"I'm not talking about them", he explains "I know the war has to be fought behind the lines as well. But there are a lot who do nothing except live on the fat of the land like the gentlemen used to..."

★

Those children argue like men. Those children want to go to Russia. We tell them:

"Suppose you're sent to another country."

They think of France, England, Mexico. They also think of waiting in the homes of Red Aid until another expedition is organised.

Anything except going home. One of them says:

"It cost my mother tears of blood to let me come. And now..."

Rather than go home, they say, they will run away to the front. They will throw themselves out of the lorry, they will go here, there and anywhere. Already one of them is of stealing along to the quay, creeping into the boat, and being on his way to Russia before they find out..."

LINE NOVAS

11th April, 1937.

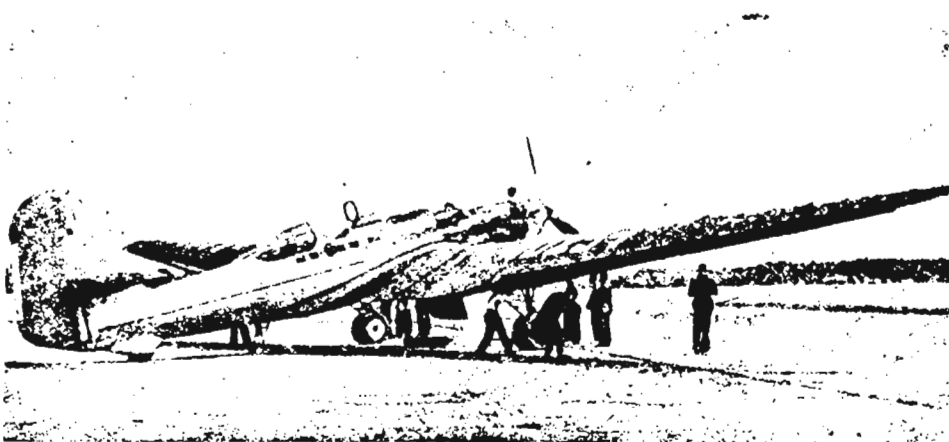
American Press on Events in China

WASHINGTON (Aug. 20). — "The Washington Post" has published a sharp article on Japanese aggression in China. Never in history, according to the article, has there been such open, insolent aggressive action, undertaken in complete defiance of world civilization, as the present attack by the Japanese on Shanghai, Japan, writes this paper, will never succeed in justifying this crime. The majority of Americans, the paper further points out, hope that the Japanese invaders of Shanghai will receive a severe set-back and that the Chinese will show themselves sufficiently strong to put



an end to the present Japanese aggression.

The paper points out that the Department of State has refrained from invoking the neutrality legislation and in this reflects the anti-Japanese sentiments of the American people. The American people don't want the government to take such actions as would facilitate the Japanese efforts to invade and grab China. The American people "know that Japan, six years ago, delivered a crushing blow against the machinery to maintain world peace and attempted to destroy quite consciously the influence of the League of Nations; they know that Japan in this manner cleared the road for the Italian conquest of Ethiopia and for the present Italo-German intervention in Spain; they know that if Japanese aggression proves successful it will lead to other countries now kept in bounds following the example of Japan in other parts of the world until finally even the U. S. A. will be involved in the conflict".



Soviet Plane Which Made the Long Flight Over the North Pole.

TOWARDS A WORLD ANTI-FASCIST FRONT

DE BROUCKERE, PRESIDENT OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL, VISITS SPAIN

On Tuesday, August 6th, Louis De Brouckere, President of the Socialist International, spoke to the French troops of the 14th Brigade.

The setting, medieval and redolent of the old regime, reminiscent of the fallen power of the kings and of the clergy, added a peculiar flavor to an event the importance of which cannot be exaggerated. But overwhelming the old monarchical atmosphere, there was a whole repre-



sentation of a new world, of a world in the making.

In a hotel built for the comfort and delectation of bourgeois tourism attracted to the spot to gaze upon the many and surprisingly well kept relics of the past, were gathered soldiers and officers of the International Brigades, officials of the Spanish Popular Front Government officers of the Spanish Popular Army, representatives of the Communist and of the Socialist Internationals. The date of the meeting, happened to be the day on which the Soviet Union's note to the Italian

Fascist Government concerning the sinking of Soviet Merchant ships was made public. And in that day, with the Soviet Union openly challenging the piratical government of Mussolini, the speech of De Brouckere took on added importance.

COMMANDER PRESIDES

The meeting was opened with a brief but telling introduction by Commander Dumont, who stated plainly but forcefully that the old rivalries between Communist and Socialist in civilian and pre-civil war time had transformed themselves into competitions between them in the quality of the work performed. Then Bastien, political Commissar for the Franco-Belgian Battalion, took up the slogan originated by De Brouckere



re in Belgium, "To Unite or to die", and, expressing admiration for the slogan and for its originator, welcomed him in the name of the Brigade.

The Grand Old Man of the Bel-



Comrade Gallo Showing De Brouckere the Battlefields.

gian Socialist Party stated very plainly that if he did not remain in Spain to fight last year, when he came to Madrid in August, it was because of his advanced age (68), his weight, (over 250 pounds)—De Brouckere is six feet, four inches tall—and chiefly because the present Minister of War, Indalecio Prieto, asked him to return to Belgium and there to take up the fight in behalf of the Spanish Popular Front Government.

DE BROUCKERE'S SPEECH

His subsequent statements follow:

"I am in favor", he said, "Of liberty, of all liberties, by which I mean peace and the emancipation of the proletariat... We in Spain are faced with a war which is both one of invasion and a civil war. The two are being fought simultaneously, and whatever development this war may have, we shall see that this twofold character of the war will become general, because more and more we shall see that these wars are wars of International Fascism against the International Popular forces... I have followed the

events in Spain and everything which happened elsewhere as a consequence of Spanish events. I have arrived at the conclusion that international aid for Spain can be organized, because besides the class interests which are in danger today, we have also the national interests which must be defended.

"International Fascism, which today is invading Spain, is not only the enemy and the executioner of the Spanish people, but is also the enemy of the French farmers and of the French small busin-



nessmen, and of the British commercial interests... These interests are in danger because the governments of these two nations have allowed international law to be flouted with impunity. Respect for international law must be imposed. A Union of democratic nations must be formed.



De Brouckere Greeting Members of the 14th International Brigade.

All the progressive parties must see to it that a mobilization of popular opinion takes place for the purpose of convincing the Government, to take immediate and energetic action against fascism. And if these governments cannot be convinced to take action, then this same popular opinion, mobilized on an international scale, must become strong enough to compel the Government to take action...

"UNITE OR DIE"

"We must unite or die. But this unification process must be the result of patient and careful



LOUIS DE BROUCKERE.

work, and not limited to the two political parties, which can be called functionalized, that is of the Communist and the Socialist Parties. This unification must include all the popular forces in the fight against fascism. This Union must be of an international character, because the task is an international one."

Two days previously De Brouckere spoke in Albacete. There



in the Casa del Pueblo, De Brouckere addressed a large delegation of the International Brigades and unreservedly expressed admiration for the Soviet Union which alone, through its help, made possible the stemming of the tide which was hurling the Spanish unarmed militias across Spain and to eventual defeat. There in Albacete

he developed at greater length the question of international assistance to Spain and against fascism as a whole. Pointing out the neglect of the League of Nations, he stated that the democratic countries (France, Great Britain, the U. S. S. R. and the United States) will be the powers which will decide the final battle. The other nations although small and therefore of relative importance, can also bring their contribution to the common fight. But because the United States is so far away, the deciding and most important voice will be that of Great Britain and of France, because they are the ones in most immediate danger.

We know full well, said De Brouckere, that the British conservative government has sympathies for Franco, but now with fascism in its insolence sinking the ships of these countries, we see our fondest hopes being realized and a change of attitude of these countries because they cannot afford that there should be built over the corpse of Spain a menace to their independence.

United States Will Not Recognize "Belligerent Rights" of Franco

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Sept. 5).—The Government of the United States has rejected the proposal formulated recently by Uruguay that the U. S. associate itself with the recognition of the belligerent rights of the Spanish rebels.

★

Secretary of State Hull has declared to representatives of the press that on the problem of navigation in the Mediterranean, all that the United States could do at the present is to warn its ships of all classes that the danger on that sea has increased as a result of recently noted incidents.

He also stated that "the United States has called the attention of 'non-intervention' countries to the fact that North America has not recognized Franco's rights as a belligerent, and that the U. S. A., despite the fact that it does not participate in the work of the London Committee, follows with great interest and sympathy the efforts of the European nations to limit the effects of the Spanish Civil War".

INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES HONORED IN MADRID

The meeting held in the Monumental Theatre last, Sunday, July 5th, took place amidst an enthusiasm which showed the feelings of the Madrilenos towards the International Brigades.

Held under the auspices of the Socorro Rojo Internacional and for the purpose of paying homage to the Brigades who are now in the hottest and incidentally the most victorious fighting this war of liberation has yet seen, the meeting was addressed by Luigi Gallo, Inspector General for the International Brigades; Lieutenant-Colonel Ortega; Arthur, Commissar of Organization for the Brigades; Félix Galán, of the Socialist Party; Osorio Tafall of the Left Republican Party; Isidoro Diéguez of the Communist Party; Bonnet of the International Red Aid of France, and Antón, Political Commissar for the Army of the Center.

Ortega reminded the people of Madrid that those who make light of the help given by the International Brigades should be reminded of the tragic days of last November, when the fascist hordes were rapidly advancing towards Madrid, pushing on the militia who in spite of all their courage could not stem the invading tide because of the lack of discipline and organization in their lines. It was the International Brigades, said Ortega, who taught discipline and organization to the Spanish ar-

my by their example and courage.

Antón, who was not scheduled to speak, but did so at the insistent request of the audience, decided to address the meeting not as a political Commissar but as a Madrileño. And as a Madrileño he opened, by thanking the members



Political Commissar ANTON.

of the International Brigades for the help they gave in the saving of Madrid. He said that Spain knows and never will forget the men of the Brigades, and concluded with the promise that when Spain is freed of this invasion the Spanish Volunteers for Liberty will be going with all the others to Rome and to Berlin and there put an end to the last remnants of Fascist power.



Quinto, After We Broke Through.

TROTSKYIST TRAITORS

The following letter is from a member of the Independent Labour Party who came to Spain as a volunteer in January and joined the P. O. U. M. militia.

★

I was a Socialist, although I had not always followed a clear policy. It was logical, however, that when Fascism made its criminal attack, on the People's Republic of Spain, I, together with other workers, should come to take part in the great struggle.

I arrived in Spain on January 11, 1937, with a contingent of volunteers from the British Independent Labour Party, and I intended to go to Madrid. But for reasons which I do not know, we stopped at the Lenin Barracks in Barcelona. These barracks were controlled by the Worker's Party of Marxist Unification (P. O. U. M.).

The only thing we did was to go on a daily march to and from a nearby field, which infuriated the group of Englishmen, who were only a small minority. At last we went with the P. O. U. M. militia to the Alcubierre sector on the Aragon front, under the command of Commander Kopp. In this position I noticed the first signs that something strange was happening.

FOOD SUPPLIES VANISH

Food and other supplies were very scarce, and on investigating we discovered that although the mules left the base at Alcubierre

fully loaded, by the time they reached the front lines the best of everything had disappeared. Although this was proved, nothing was done to prevent it and no enquiry was held. What was done with all that went astray? I think this deserves an explanation.

Every night at about 11 o'clock, the comrades who were on guard heard the noise of the cart and saw its light. It moved up between our positions on the left and the Fascist lines. We received orders not to fire on this light and we were absolutely forbidden to waylay it or investigate the matter. Our leaders gave us no satisfactory explanation, and no one appeared to know anything about this mysterious cart, except that it used to enter the enemy lines without being fired on.

Once during a skirmish in the daytime we discovered, on the route over which the cart had followed, a hut which showed signs — cigar packets, chocolate wrapping, etc.—of having been occupied regularly by the Fascists and their people.

TRANSFERRED TO HUESCA

We planned to trick their watchfulness at the first opportunity and follow the cart, but at night all our plans were brought to nought, as we were transferred to the Huesca sector.

And these things happened in the so-called Anti-Fascist Militia of the P. O. U. M.

In Huesca the shortage of food continued. We were very badly

off for clothes, and one day at the supply depot at Montflorite, which was their base, I saw an order to deliver to us 75 sets of soldiers' clothes, which were called "fishermens' suits" here. During the weeks which followed one or the other of us wandered round the depot to grab them when they arrived, but they never did arrive.



Very soon afterwards I had evidence of the same thing at Barbastro, a town about 25 kilometres further to the rear.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIONS

One would like to believe at least that the Commander was above all suspicion; but Commander Kopp used to say that he had been in Huesca while the Fascists were occupying it.

On another occasion, precisely a night when we were advancing, a patrol saw Kopp barefacedly jumping over the barbed wire and

returning from the Fascist lines.

And from the political aspect as well, the P. O. U. M. was working in favour of Fascism. The political reports which their representatives gave were full of humbug and gave us cause to believe that workers were going to be rapidly crushed in the hinterland, and that a period of terror was being prepared.

Various reports of bloody repression of the workers in the rear reached us from time to time, and the reasons which were given to explain the shortage of arms was that the Government was trying to annihilate the militia of the P. O. U. M.

DISCOVERS THE TRUTH

If I had had a more complete political training, perhaps I should not have allowed myself to be drawn along by all this nonsensical talk; but unfortunately in my political ignorance I let myself be led into the crime of joining in the struggle instigated against the Anti-Fascist Government in the streets of Barcelona.

Then I realised that the many rifles, machine guns and tanks, which we had at our disposal in such vast quantities in Barcelona, were all the arms for which we had longed so much at the front, and that the real reason for the shortage of arms at the front was this illegal arsenal of arms stolen by the P. O. U. M. and other elements. How glad I am that at the end of two days I had sufficient sense to see a little



Peasant from Belchite whose Family was Killed by the Fascists.



Fascist Artillery Captured at Quinto.

more clearly the criminal business which was being perpetrated by the P. O. U. M. and some of their friends, and extricated myself from it without having stained my hands with the blood of the real Anti-Fascist workers.

OPEN FRATERNIZATION

On my return to the front I found open fraternisation reigned between the forces of the P. O. U. M. and the Fascists: writing paper, tobacco, drinks, etc., were being exchanged.

Our position was 150 yards from the Fascist trenches, and in spite of the fact that they were constantly asking us to go over to them, we were ordered not to reply to their fire.

At that time the militia on the Aragon front were relieved by the People's Army, and among the P. O. U. M. forces it was rumoured that when the moment came for our relief the order would be given to resist the People's Army with force.

But every day I realised more and more the part which the P. O. U. M. was playing in favour of Fascism, and together with my friend Arthur I asked for my discharge. It is not necessary to give in detail all their excuses, except that the front was weak and not a single man could leave which were used to explain their refusal. Nevertheless the P. O. U. M. authorities gave permission to an American Trotskyist, H. Milton, to go to Valencia.

REFUSED TO FIGHT FRIENDS

Arthur and myself refused to take up arms under the command of the P. O. U. M. and against the Spanish Government, and we offered to work on fortifications which were very necessary in our sector. The P. O. U. M. answered by threatening us with prison and the firing squad. We fled to Barbastro and hid there for nine days until a friend told us that things had been arranged for us. We returned to the front, and three weeks later we were relieved by the People's Army without any incident. Then the Workers' Party of Marxist Unification seemed to have a great deal of interest in getting rid of us, and gave us our discharge at once.

And that was the end of my experiences in the P. O. U. M. mi-

INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES CITED FOR TAKING QUINTO

Following the storming of Quinto, in the Aragon offensive, the 15th and 11th Brigades received a telegram from General Walter, in Command of the 35th Division, conveying the congratulations of General Pozas, Commander of the Army of the East. The telegram from General Walter, which is here printed in full, is in effect a citation for bravery in action on the part of these two International Brigades:

"The General in Command of the Army of the East, in his telegram of yesterday, addresses us as follows:

"I send my most enthusiastic congratulations to all the Commanders, officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers in that brave Division, and especially to yourself and to the 11th and 15th Brigades, for the heroism and fighting spirit shown in the brilliant action of the taking of Quinto — an episode of great importance for the triumph of our cause which, I am sure, these forces will even surpass with new victories as important as this last. Forward, the 35th Division!—POZAS. General in Command."

"I am very glad to add my own warmest congratulations to these, hoping that in the coming days the 35th Division will surpass itself, if possible — winning brilliant and decisive victories which are the motto of the glorious Army Corps to which we belong.—WALTER, General in Command of the 35th Division."

lilia, whose Fascist role is seen clearly in the above. I must admit that I needed a great deal of time to realise the truth, and that it was only external events which made me consider the question more deeply and see it in its true light. But I should never have fallen into these errors if I had given more attention to my political education.

As I said at the beginning, these circumstances weakened my faith in the socialist movement. But now I understand that in spite of

these backward steps and the treachery of certain leaders in whom I had confidence at that time, we workers must carry on the struggle, and now with greater experience, I hope to play a useful part in the fight against Fascism and the fight for Socialism.

Long live the Republic of the Spanish People!

Long live the victory of the workers of the world!

Salud!

J. A. FRANFORD

REFUGEE KIDS GET HELP FROM U. S.

VALENCIA.—The first American-supported home for refugee children in Spain was inaugurated recently when a group of fifty children arrived at the Thomas Jefferson home in Can Toni Gros, Catalonia. The home, a magnificent country villa north of Barcelona in the lower Pyrenees has obtained the full financial support of the American United Youth Committee for a period of at least one year.

As the children arrived at their destination after there day's journey from Madrid in one of the evacuation trucks of the British Evacuation Service, they cheered and sang for the young Ameri-



cans who had made possible this new home, safe from bombardments. The next morning they wrote to their parents in Madrid describing their new country home.

Most of the children have never lived outside Madrid. They soon scattered in the fields to watch the peasants bring in the harvest of wheat and potatoes. Many of the children were thin after almost nine months' siege in Madrid, but gained weight before the month was over.

The first American colony is under the control of the Spanish Ministry of Education which has established similar homes for almost fifty thousand children from Madrid, Estremadura, and Malaga since the outbreak of hostilities. There are now almost twenty homes supported from abroad, chiefly from England, Belgium, Holland, France, Norway, Sweden, and America. In the United States campaigns have been started to raise money for at least fifteen more homes, while Canada has begun to raise money to support five hundred children in a Canadian Children's Colony. There are already two international children's villages, in Can Toni Gros and Pulgord, and others are planned.



AN INTERVIEW WITH ALVAREZ DEL VAYO

Alvarez del Vayo is one of the most beloved men in Spain today as well as one of the most important. As Commissar of War, his is the task of molding the political and moral character of the Popular Army, of keeping its ideal and sentiments geared to those of the people. As former Minister of Foreign Affairs, his opinions are still of great weight in that ministry. As a leading left-wing Socialist, previously identified with Cabañero, his eloquent advocacy of the united party of the proletariat, has made him a key figure in the relations of the Socialist and Communist Parties.

We caught him in between interviewing a delegation from the Syndicalist Party and engagement to address the graduates of the School of the War Commissariat. We addressed some questions to him that we knew would interest the comrades in the International Brigades.

UNITY ESSENTIAL

"Unity", he declared, in answer to the query that came promptly to our mind, "must be seen against a perspective of a long struggle before victory is assured. This would not be so if the enemy were not supported by the fascist states and if the democratic powers were not indifferent. With this in mind it becomes imperative to have unity of the nation, and a united proletarian party will aid this. It will be a powerful party and thus be better able to carry through the will of the country. It will suppress the inevitable polarization that occurs when parties, in order to preserve their existence, polemicise against one another.

The masses in Spain wanted unity even before the outbreak of the rebellion. The latter has persuaded the Socialist Party executive of the advantages of unity. The United Party will not be used

e. fascist) opinion was that it would endure for two years. But that fascist leaders were banking upon the break-up of the Popular Front and incidents such as the uprising of May.

the thousands who are only waiting for an opportunity to desert. In the rearguard of the fascists we all know what troubles they are having." Our slogan, added the Commissar, that ours is a war of national independence, has begun to have its effect upon the rebel rearguard in the awakening of patriotic sentiment among the Spanish rebels.

BASES FOR UNITY

A corollary of unity on the Loyalist side, said del Vayo, is the broadening of the present base of the Government to include representation of the C.N.T. But there can be no collaboration where anarchist ministers give assurances of one kind and the anarchist masses act otherwise. The only basis for collaboration is the keeping of agreements.

We asked Comrade del Vayo about the indictment of unification as just a measure whereby the Communist Party absorbs the other. He pointed out that the Communist Party in its letter to the Socialist Party, stated that unity should be achieved in such a way that no individual and no tendency in the Socialist Party should be excluded.

The Communist Party appreciates that the Socialist Party in Spain has an enormous tradition behind it, and that it has nurtured many of the trade union leaders. The Communists declare that these trade union militants will form the best cadres for the United Party. We must also remem-



A Street in Belchite After We Occupied the Town.

against other proletarian groups, but will aid the harmonious working together of all parties and trade unions. I am of course for the unity of the U.G.T. and C.N.T., but realism compels me to state that united action will have to precede the stage that the Communist and Socialist parties have now achieved. I think only through unity can Spain win the war. It is a demand of the war." Comrade del Vayo is a man of feeling and deep conviction, and it required no shewdness on our part to discern that unity for Comrade del Vayo was no opportunistic, political pose, but something in which his whole being was involved.

And the obverse of this is what is happening in the rebel rearguard. Logically, Comrade del Vayo pointed out, there should be a correspondence between rebel military successes in Bilbao and around Santander and the morale of the rebel forces and rearguard. "But here in the Commissariat of War we receive daily reports not only on the increasing number of desertions from Franco, but of

IMPORTANCE STRESSED

Comrade del Vayo's emphasis on unity as a pre-condition of winning the war is borne out by comments made by H. V. Kaltenborn, the radio commentator for the Columbia Broadcasting System who recently visited rebel Spain. He was told there by leading fascists that if the war was to be decided on a military basis, even their (i.



Another Russian Atrocity! They've Stolen our North pole!



One of Belchite's Strongly Fortified Positions

ber the example of the united party in Catalonia where the name Socialist was retained and where the two outstanding leaders, Comorera and Vidiella, were members of the Socialist Party before unification.

AID FROM U. S. S. R.

We then broached a delicate subject, namely, those who accuse the present Government of destroying the gains of the July 18 revolutionary upsurge. "I cannot waste any time denying assertions of pressure from the U.S.S.R. They have given us splendid aid. They never have tried and they know they cannot direct Spanish policy. Spain will decide for itself what is best for her. It would be to fall into demagoguery to try now to decide how Spain is going to be to morrow. I believe that the program of the United Party must be very concretely related to the present war and economic situation."

"It is insane to say Spain is not going in a revolutionary direction. Only look at the country and one can see that it is not the capitalist Spain of 1936. But we cannot allow ourselves the luxury of socio-economic experiments. The revolution is there, but the first condition of winning the revolution is winning the war. If we do not win the war we can make a fine revolution on paper sitting around café tables in Paris."

MAY REBELLION CRIMINAL

Concerning the P. O. U. M., Comrade Del Vayo is awaiting the trial. But he asserted emphatically that the May rebellion was criminal, and that there can be no question but that the P. O. U. M. organ, "Batalla", openly incited to rebellion, and that the speeches of Nin before the uprising called for rebellion.

The interview ended with Comrade Del Vayo telling us of his recent visit to the Madrid front. "Although I spoke only of military matters, it was very significant that I was welcomed all over by tremendous shouts of 'Long Live Unity'. The soldiers at the front feel most keenly the needs of war. And they reflect the general atmosphere behind Loyalist lines.—UNITY."

J. P. L.

POPULAR CULTURE

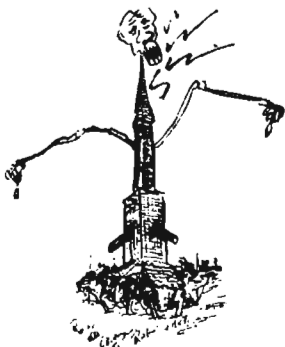
VALENCIA. — Popular Culture, the name of the association that is brightening the days of many wounded in the hospitals and bringing pleasure to thousands of soldiers at the front, is formed from an amalgamation of the cultural sections of more than nine other organisations. The Left Republicans, the Socialist Youth, the C. N. T. (the Anarchist trade union federation), the Spanish Federation of School Teachers — every large anti-fascist organisation is represented in Popular Culture.

When the war began last July,

to the soldiers on the rebel side. This work was often carried out under enemy fire.

CULTURAL TRUCK

The next job was to equip one of the trucks with a machine for printing, a wireless set, and a small film projector, as well as a



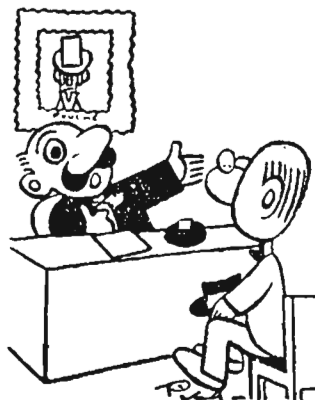
Radio Seville.

Popular Culture instantly established a central office in Madrid, obtained the use of two trucks, and began its work on the fronts. Not the least part of this work has been propaganda directed at the enemy. In the early days of the attacks on Madrid the Popular Culture truck distributed about half a million leaflets giving a true account of the war

comprehensive library. With this equipment the truck of Popular Culture began its tour of the fronts. Since that day its work has grown out of recognition. In the place of the one small library it has collected many thousand books from which it has selected 130,000 considered suitable for the soldiers and wounded. With these it has set up libraries in all parts of the fronts, in the barracks, in hospitals, children's homes. In addition to this it has established "Corners of Culture" in many hospitals where books, gramophones,



nes, and records are kept, lectures and film shows given, meetings held. A dramatic section has also been founded in connection with



Don't be a dope! Sell bombs, not bonds.

the "Barraca" theatre, an amateur travelling company directed by the famous poet Garcia Lorca until his death at the hands of the Fascists.



SAVES ART TREASURES

Popular Culture has done a great deal of work in saving the national treasures of Spain. It was instrumental in saving the books from the second most valuable library in Spain, that of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters at University City, Madrid.

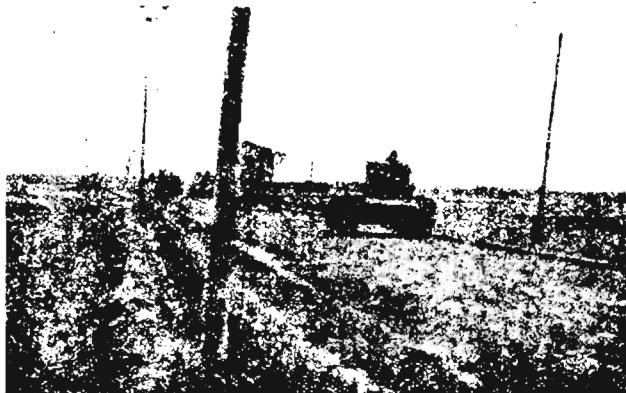
In addition to the 248 libraries they have created, the film shows, and other valuable works Popular Culture distributes about 25,000 newspapers daily; gives regular radio talks for soldiers and patients in the hospitals; and helps the soldiers produce their own newspapers. They organised the



Children's Exhibition of antifascist drawings, which will be shown later in England and the United States. Their work both at the front and in the rear guard has been invaluable, and the spirit in which it is carried out is best expressed by their own slogan: "The rifle of today is the guarantee of the culture of tomorrow".

M. M.

DIANA (U. G. T.).—Larra, 8, Madrid



Tanks Roll Towards Medina.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades ★

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Madrid, September 20 - 1937

WHAT IS HAPPENING BEHIND FRANCO'S LINES?

The following article is part of a short-wave broadcast made to the United States and Canada, over Station E A B, on Tuesday, September, 7th.

★

One of the big questions in the minds of Americans, these days, is: "What is happening behind Franco's lines? What is happening in the territory now held by the Fascists?" It is important to understand what occurs in the fascist rear, not only to possess an accurate picture of fascist strength or weakness, but also to know the maximum fighting power of Republican Spain today. Here, in Spain, of course, we can observe almost at first-hand what occurs in fascist-held territory. We know how the arrogance of Mussolini's officers and the domineering traits of Hitler's officers and men clash even with the Spanish fascists. On many occasions we have heard the noise of heavy fighting behind enemy lines. There have been frequent revolts in fascists-held territory, especially since the powerful July offensive of our People's Army on the Madrid front. And now, with the victorious advance of the Loyalist soldiers in Aragon, we can expect further, and bigger rifts, further rebellions within rebellions, in the fascist areas. There are, in addition to all of this, our partisan units carrying on constant and effective guerilla warfare behind enemy lines; but their activities, for obvious reasons, cannot be spoken of at present.

If you were here in Spain today, you could check up on these things for yourself. A day's ride from Madrid would take you to any of a number of fronts. There

Young Spaniard, Captured Near Irun, Escapes from Fascist Lines at Brunete, and Answers This Question

you would be able to hear the commotion of battle, the flash and sound of rifle- machine-gun, and artillery-fire; directed not only against government lines but against some objective deep within fascist territory. But the fascists' fighting among themselves is only one part of the whole story. Most of the firing takes place when the people themselves rise in fascist territory—the people who have been bled by fascism to a greater degree than even the corrupt monarchy bled them; the people who have been victimized and terrorized to an even greater

degree than were the peasants of 16th century Spain, under the life-and-death power wielded by Philip II and his Inquisition. These people have been drained of their man-power and of their meagre possessions; boys of 15, 16, and 17 are forced to fight for the fascists. And old men and cripples are forced to dig their trenches, build their fortifications.

TWO YOUNG SOLDIERS

Just a few days ago I sat at a long table in a Madrid mansion now occupied by the Alliance of

Anti-Fascist Intellectuals, listening to the story of two young Spaniards who had recently escaped from the fascist lines. One, the older and more articulate of the two, is an Estramaduran, the other is a Basque. Both joined the government forces at the very beginning of the rebellion—July 18th, 1936. ~~Both~~ were attached to the Army of the North. Both fought through the heart-breaking campaigns during which Italian arms and men, and German planes, brutally destroyed Guernica and Durango, and captured Bilbao. I cannot give you their names; their families still live—if they are alive at all—in fascist territory. And it is needless, I think, to remind you that whenever the fascists receive a setback, whether military or verbal—they carry out their reprisals, like the corrupt gentlemen they are, on "women and children first".

I'll call the older of the two young Spaniards Frank—which is a fair approximation of one of his names.

WOUNDED IN NORTH

From the very start, Frank fought at Irun, until it was lost, sustaining a wound which should have kept him out of action for four months. But in half that time, on his own insistence, he was back at the front, as commissar for supplies of his battalion. Tiring of this comparatively "safe" job, he returned to the infantry, where he was made sergeant of a machine-gun company. As a machine gunner he fought in battle, at Udalla and Oñandiano, and in other towns against the fascist advance, until the 23rd of



Bringing in the captured phalangists.

(Continued on page 4)

OUR SECOND VICTORIOUS OFFENSIVE

After our offensive on the Guadarrama follows our offensive on the Ebro before Saragossa.

After the brilliant actions which enabled us to capture Brunete and take by storm Villanueva de la Cañada, Quijorna and Villanueva del Pardillo, we have now carried out new and more brilliant actions on the Aragon front, which have brought our troops within a few kilometres of Saragossa, and have



allowed us to infiltrate a distance varying from 10 to 15 kilometres into the enemy lines and take by storm and hold positions which were deemed impregnable, such as Quinto, Codo and Mediana; and to lay siege to Belchite and to force it to surrender after fierce street fighting.

Not a month had gone by since our first offensive and already our Army was able to launch a second on a still larger scale with more developed and effective means, with troops trained and steeled in action, filled with enthusiasm at the victories we had already won.

ENEMY SURPRISED

Our leaders and troops have carefully profited by the lessons of Guadarrama in this new offensive.

We were able to take the enemy by surprise, to disorganise and overthrow his system of defence in a few hours and to obtain results of vast political and military importance. We were able to do this because of the daring with which the plan of operations was drawn up, the perfect manner in which it was carried out in action, and because of the heroism and worth of our soldiers.

All the Brigades which took part in this action have vied with one another in heroism and worth.

The Brigades which had won their greatest glory on the Madrid front have fought side by side with those brave Brigades which for months and months have been defending the cause of

freedom and Spanish independence on the Aragon front.

PERFECT UNITY

This Aragon offensive is a proof of the perfect unity of purpose which exists in all the sectors of battle, among men of all political tendencies: the will to unite all the forces of the people in one block to crush Spanish and International Fascism as soon as possible.

It also provides a proof of the wisdom and energy of the policy of our People's Front Government, which has been able to prepare and launch this great and victorious offensive in such a short space of time, and in the political sphere has been able to bring about the conditions of organisation and military command



which have made this offensive possible.

Without the perfect subordination of all the military units to one central command, without utilising all our forces in a general plan which takes into account all the needs and possibilities of all the battle fronts, it would have been impossible to carry out the movements of troops and the concentration of forces which were necessary for the success of these offensives.

This provides further confirmation of the advantages and necessity of the unity of all the forces of the people against Fascism, the need for a disciplined regular Army which organises and activates all our forces, and for a central command which makes the best use of them and sends them into attack on the basis of the experience already gained and in accordance with the rules of the art of war.

The decision to launch our second offensive on the Aragon front was not made lightly.

We had to attack immediately

and resolutely on other battle fronts because of the need to help our comrades in the North. We had to go to the aid of the anti-fascist people's forces who had risen in violent demonstrations in Saragossa and the surrounding district against Franco's rule. These factors led to the banks of the Ebro being chosen as the scene for our attacks. The vital significance of Saragossa and the whole of Aragon makes our offensive an event of first rate importance for the whole development of the Spanish war.

After the heroic defence of Madrid for which all the regions of Spain and all the political tendencies have given their best forces, it has been possible to make a concentration on the banks of the Ebro for this offensive and to prove to the whole world that the People's Spain, Republican Spain, is united as one man and feels with one heart and one mind the cause of the war.

THE I. B.'S ROLE

For the Volunteers of the International Brigades, representing the world People's Front, who have come to Spain with one desire alone: to help to defend her liberty and independence, it has been a great honor to be able to take part in this Aragon offensive, where, as ever, our International Brigades have written immortal pages of heroism and daring, such as they had already written on the Madrid front, the



southern front, and the fronts of Teruel and Pozoblanco.

In the assault of Quinto, in the brave resistance to the enemy counter-attacks at Mediana, in the conquest of Belchite, our Brigades, together with the Spanish Brigades, have covered themselves with glory.

What shall we say of the two brave Polish Battalions which penetrated into the enemy lines alone and surprised and destroyed

important fascist forces which were going to strengthen their weakening lines,—those two Battalions which advanced until they came within a few kilometres of Saragossa!

It was a real odyssey, full of



splendid courage, resistance to fatigue, initiative and capacity for action.

LEADERS PRAISE MEN

All the military leaders have nothing but congratulations and highest praise for the courage of our volunteers. They attacked positions which were considered impregnable in perfect order, as if they were "on manoeuvres", I was told by General Walter, Lieutenant Colonel Copic and Commander Richard who had seen them in action and had had the honor of commanding them.

All our Brigades and every one of our volunteers can be proud of the glory won by the International Brigades on the Aragon front. It should make all in our Brigades, all our volunteers, draw the lessons from our last battles so as to do even better, winning new victories in the decisive battles which are before us.

Our victories on the Aragon front provide further confirmation and proof of the lessons of the Guadarrama victory.

We have all we need for victory, and we shall win the war.

LUIGI GALLO

Inspector-General of the International Brigades.

In the Rebel Zone

They say in Gibraltar that the number of Spaniards who flee from the rebel zone to this English area are increasing from day to day so that they constitute a housing problem. More than 500 have arrived in the last week in spite of the precautions of the rebels.

BRITONS IN SPAIN

In these days, when our Spanish comrades are paying homage to our International Brigade, and when its amazing history is being unfolded anew, its struggles, the hardships it has endured, its victories; it is time also that we volunteers who make up this Brigade should remember the service and the valor of some of the comrades who are still fighting at our side, and of the comrades who died in giving it its memorable tradition.

Some of us are apt to forget, and some — especially among the newer recruits — are unaware of the difficult days that now forever lie behind us. Today, with our efficient units, our modern arms, our trained officers, our unified command, it is not easy to remember those other days, the days of confusion, of sabotage, of treachery; the days when our aeroplanes did not fill the sky, nor rifles fill all of our arms; the days when we were only beginning to forge our army, and to forge the men who lead it.

Others can tell of the numberless, nameless French comrades who, in the first months of the revolt, poured over the border in their thousands and died that Fascism should not pass; of the brave and bitter German and Italian anti-fascists who faced again the Beast of Fascism and, dying, stayed its progress. I wish to tell of our brave British comrades whose courage and selfless sacrifice have been second to none among the anti-fascists who compose the International Brigades.

SPORTSMEN ENLISTED

In July 1936, when the fascist rebellion broke out a group of British worker sportsmen were in Barcelona for the Workers' Olympiad. They immediately rallied to the aid of their Spanish brothers and fought with them in the streets of Barcelona and in other parts of Catalonia. A second group, cycling in France at the time of the outbreak, immediately crossed the border and put their services at the disposal of the Government. Among the first group was Felicia Brown, a London artist, perhaps the first woman from another country to die for the cause of Spain.

In two months time the group of volunteers had grown and the "Tom Mann Centuria" was for-

med. This unit carried out some of the most audacious coups in the early days, among such, an expedition to the Balearics, where they fought doggedly against the fascist invaders. Later, linking themselves up with the German comrades, they went into action on the Teruel and Madrid fronts, where they won the admiration of their fellow anti-fascists. These actions saw the death of some of our best comrades, typical of such being John Cornford, a brilliant student whose death was one of the severest losses to the British student movement in recent years.

VOLUNTEERS POURED IN

At the same time as these comrades were fighting with the "Thaelmann Battalion" other British volunteers were pouring into Spain. In December a British company of about 150 men, insufficiently armed, badly equipped, hurriedly trained, left Albacete for the Cordova front, where the fascist had been advancing. On a moving front without entrenchments, their thin garments providing little protection against the winter cold, robbed even of food by sabotage, they fought for night and day to repel the enemy advances. Three times they gained their objective, thrice were they thrust back by the machine gun fire of the enemy aviation. In those days the red "moscas" had not yet come to terrorise the fascist planes from the skies.

From Cordova they went to Guadalajara and to Casa del Campo. Wherever the fascists made their greatest efforts the British comrades were to be found opposing them. After a two month campaign they returned to the

base to re-organise and to join the British Battalion which was being formed. But not all of them returned, Ralph Fox, beloved proletarian writer of the British people was one of those who did not come back.

BATTALION FORMED

The British "Saklatvala" Battalion was formed early in 1937. On Feb. 11th, the fascists succeeded in crossing the Jarama river and, supported by tanks and artillery, were advancing towards the Madrid-Valencia road. The Battalion was one among others which was rushed up to stem the advance. It was a moving front, a front without cover. It was the scene of the most desperate battle of the war — the scene of our British comrades' greatest effort.

For eleven days and nights the British comrades fought the fascists for the soil of Spain — foot by foot. Hundreds of our comrades were killed, hundreds more wounded. Death and injury denuded the battalion of the majority of its officers — still it fought on. By the 21st, it was evident that the fascists had exhausted their efforts and that they had failed in their objective.

Despite the heavy losses on both sides and the extremely exhaustive nature of the fighting, the Government forces were quickly re-organised and took the initiative in attack. In these attacks the British comrades continued their heroic efforts. When, at long last, calm came to the Jarama sector, this heroic battalion made up its balance sheet: hundreds of dead, hundreds of wounded; Madrid had been saved, THEY HAD NOT PASSED.

Then followed the long enervating months of comparative stalemated, months of extreme difficulty during which it was found to be impossible to rest the battalions owing to the peculiar military and political situation in the country at the time. These were the days when the activities of fascist agents were making critical situations in the rear, the days which saw the culmination of such work in the betrayal of Malaga and the uprising in Barcelona. These events were responsible for denying our comrades the rest they so badly needed.

At last, however, the situation improved and the British Battalion was rested. The rest was short-lived for the call went forth again — this time the OFFENSIVE. Again they took up their arms — again they marched to battle.

Who can say that these men were not brave, these men who stormed Villanueva de la Cañada? At last on the offensive against the hated fascists, despite their fatigue, despite their weariness, they fought like heroes. And what can we say of these dear comrades who paid with their lives for this advance? Company Commanders Meredith and Goodfellow, Political Commissars Brown and Elliot, no braver men fought, no comrades have died more sorrowed.

And so to Quinta, where again our victories are not without a tinge of sorrow. Peter Daly, our beloved Irish Company Commander, has died the only death that he could die.

Cordova, Guadalajara, Casa del Campo, Jarama, Brunete, Teruel, Quinta — these are the milestones in the long history of the British comrades in Spain. It is a long history but not a finished one, because we have still many of these men with us, and many more have come to join them in this struggle and to continue the proud traditions of this heroic battalion.

When the day comes on which we shall proclaim the victory of the Spanish people, we shall not forget to pay homage to the comrades who have made this victory possible. And not least among them shall be our comrades of the British battalion.



I. B. Men Help the Peasants Harvest Their Wheat.

A. DONALDSON

WHAT IS HAPPENING BEHIND FRANCO'S LINES?

(Continued from page 1.)

April, when his brigade was forced to evacuate its position to escape the deadly, vise-like enemy offensive. The brigade took up new positions in the mountains, but if their old position had been the frying-pan, the new one was the fire. All day long, Frank told me, 33 tri-motored fascist planes bombed them, dropping 1100 bombs. Forty enemy batteries kept up a constant, rapid-artillery-fire against them. After one day of this, the roll call told the story; 160 dead, and more than twice that number wounded. Frank, for the second time, was among the wounded.

RESCUE ATTEMPT

Again, after a short stay in the hospitals of Bilbao and Santander, he was back at the front. But a new fear gripped him this time. He found out that his young wife and two small children were less than five miles from the fascist lines. "There's still time to get them out", he thought and he received permission to go after them.

He set out to save his small family on June 25th of this year. The way was easy—it was his own, small house—he had been over the dusty roads and meadows and vineyards a hundred times before. But when he reached the house his wife and children were gone. In their place he found eight men, eating his own bread, getting drunk on his own wine. They were not Spaniards—he could tell that at a glance. He could have run off, hidden himself in a ditch until nightfall, when he would have been able to return safely to his companions; but the shock and the bitterness in him were too great. "I couldn't move", he told me. "I could only stand there and think—where are they, where are they?" It was here that he was taken prisoner by the fascists, five of whom, as he soon discovered, were Italians, the other three Germans.

From this point on, I'll give you Frank's own words, translated as literally as possible:

IN FASCIST HANDS

"The Germans soon departed, leaving me in the hands of the Italians, who promised that I would escape punishment if I



Girls At Work in an Ammunition Factory.

would join them. I had heard about their punishment, many times before. Seeing I was lost, I said "Yes, I'll join you".

"Then the Italians, with a great deal of soft-soap, told me not to worry, and said they would take me to headquarters to make a statement, and from there they would send me home. From the place called Gallarto, where I was captured, I was taken to San Salvador del Valle, where the headquarters were; and before we got there we went through Ortuella. At Ortuella there was a division of German and Moorish troops; and two of these soldiers, one a German and the other a Moor, came towards me when they saw me, threatening that they would cut my head off. But they changed their minds when the Italians who were guarding me told them that I was not a Red but a national.

POSSESSIONS TAKEN

"At the headquarters, after taking from me all the useful personal belongings I had, such as a watch, 250 pesetas and a few other things, they put me in a dark cell where there were twelve others, some of them old men. They kept us in the cell till eight o'clock in the evening, when they made us get into a truck and took us along to show us to the people of all the towns and villages on the right side of the Bilbao River, telling the people that this was what would happen to them if they didn't behave. At Burena they made us get down

from the vehicle, taking us on foot to Bilbao, which was five kilometres away.

"In Bilbao, they put us in the Arriaga Theatre, and about 100 of us were kept there for four days. Every 24 hours they gave us a can of beans for four men, and a small piece of bread (150 grammes) for each of us. We slept on the floor, without blankets to cover us nor a sleeping mat to rest on. During this time I was able to speak with an anonymous comrade, who told me that on June 23rd, 28 workers had been taken out of this prison-theatre at midnight, led to the Derio Cemetery, and there, together with thirty other prisoners from Guernica, all of them were shot.

20 IN ONE CELL

"After we had been four days in this hole—on June 29th, at two in the afternoon, when it was raining in torrents, they made us march in formation through all the streets of Bilbao when the rain was heaviest. Naturally we got soaked, as we had nothing on to protect us. After they got tired of making us walk through all the streets, they put us into a number of busses and took us to Victoria. There, soaked as we were, they put us in another prison, twenty men to a cell. We remained here for six days, unable to sleep or even to sit down because the cell was too small even for half our number. In it we had to attend to all our necessities—all our necessities—we were not

permitted out even once. The food was a ladle of soup every 24 hours, and a small piece of bread.

"On our second day at the Victoria prison there arrived a political prisoner who had been brought from Guernica. His face told us, even before he spoke, that he had been cruelly tortured. It was he who told us that the tortures inflicted on political prisoners where he had come from were so terrible that it meant slow, lingering death for all but the strongest.

TAKEN TO BURGOS

"On July 5th, after taking statements from us in an insulting and swinish way, they took us by train to the Burgos concentration camp. In Burgos, in order to impress the conscience of the world when foreign journalists came they gave us very good food, mostly thanks to a good captain who was in charge of us. But after the journalists had been satisfied, and when it was supposed that they would not come there any more, they moved the captain to another place; and things changed, changed very sadly for us.

"While we were here in Burgos, old men and sick men with high fevers were forced to work together with us. Early in the morning we had to go down into the prison yard to hoist the Monarchist flag, give the fascist salute, and successive cheers for the Generalissimo, for fascist Spain, for the fascist army; and then we had to shout, as loud as we could "Glory to General Mola!" One comrade, for not submitting to these whims and not saying the appropriate things, was shot. These performances of cheers and salutes we were forced to go through three times a day: in the morning, at midday, and in the afternoon.

FASCIST HINTERLAND

"After we been in this concentration camp a little more than a month, with old men and sick men working at heavy labor, building a road, we were taken to Burgos station and placed on a freight train at 9 o'clock at night and taken to the Madrid front. During the journey through Burgos, Valladolid, Salamanca,

Caceres and Toledo, in towns and in villages and in the country, we did not see a single man between 20 and 50 years old—we saw only women, many of whom were in mourning. There were also half-starved little children, who came up to the train to try to get something to eat.

"We asked these children where the men were, and they told us that the ones who had not been shot were at the front. At the Bejar station, in Salamanca, we asked a boy if there were no men in the place. He replied that the fascists had shot nearly all of them, adding: "They shot my own father". We asked him how many brothers and sisters he had, and he told us: "Five"; and that the oldest sister, who was two years older than he was, was fourteen years old. While the boy was telling us these things, a sergeant in our escort heard him, and went up to him and kicked him several times and beat him viciously with a stick.

ONLY WOMEN AT WORK

"Not only did we not see men in towns and villages, but we did not see them in the fields either. The land work, such as the harvesting of wheat, is being done by women.

"After we had witnessed all these calamities on our journey, we arrived on July 27th on the Madrid front, where they set us to digging trenches near Brunete, working like this from 4 till 11 in the morning, from 5 in the afternoon till 9 o'clock at night, and from 10 o'clock at night to 3 or half past three in the morning. Then they would take us off to breakfast and bring us back to work again at 4 or half-past four. All we had for food each day were two small tins of sardines. We had to get our water from the river, although a sweet spring was only fifty yards away. But the water of that spring was only for officers.

LEGLESS MEN DRIVEN

"If any prisoner, worn out by overwork, let himself fall asleep, or did not fall in quickly enough for work at any time, he would be beaten in a barbarous way with cudgels wielded by the sergeants. As a shameful example, men who had lost legs and arms—war victims—were dragged along with us to the edge of the

3,000,000 JOIN RANKS OF C. I. O. IN 20 MONTHS

The Committee for Industrial Organization was 20 months old in July this year. Since November 1935, when eight international unions came together to do the job which the American Federation of Labor failed to tackle, almost 2,000,000 workers have been organized for the first time, declares Edward Levinson in the current issue of Photo-History.

Together with the founding organizations, the C. I. O. totals today over 3,000,000 men and women. Counting the supporters of the C. I. O. who remain temporarily within the fold of the A. F. of L., the C. I. O. has, in less than two years, displaced the A. F. of L. as chief spokesman of American workers, Levinson says.

The growth of unionism under the C. I. O. has been the most widespread and spectacular in the history of the nation, creating a new and powerful force which is affecting economic and social trends and which will exert even greater influence as the next decades unfold.

Membership of the C. I. O. as of July 1 this year is:

United Mine Workers of America.....	600,000
Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.....	450,000
United Automobile Workers.....	350,000
International Ladies Garment Workers.....	252,000
United Textile Workers.....	350,000
Amalgamated Clothing Workers.....	180,000
United Electrical and Radio Workers.....	100,000
Federation of Woodworkers.....	80,000
International Typographical Union.....	80,000
United Transport Workers.....	70,000
Oil, Field, Gas and Refinery Workers.....	60,000
United Rubber Workers.....	55,000
National Maritime Union.....	75,000
Pacific Maritime Federation.....	40,000
Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers.....	30,000
United Shoe Workers.....	25,000
United Retail Employees.....	25,000
United Office and Professional Employees.....	25,000
International Fur Workers.....	35,000
Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.....	19,000
Federation Flat Glass Workers.....	15,000
American Newspaper Guild.....	15,000
Miscellaneous.....	150,000
Total	3,083,000

All besides the International Typographical Union are formally affiliated with the C. I. O. The Typo's president Charles P. Howard is C. I. O. secretary but the union has not yet formally affiliated.

firing line. A legless man would be given a pick, placed in a sitting position, and told "Get to work!" A man with only one arm would have to make full use of it. Old men, priests, doctors and school teachers, were forced to work with us.

"As the majority of the prisoners were Basques, and many of these had Catholic sentiments, we agreed one day when we were on the Quijorna front that a Friar from Los Salixianos de Bilbao

should ask permission from the prisoners' commander to pray at meal times. When our Friar asked for permission, the Commander flew into a fury, hurled himself upon him, hit him in the face and said he would not allow such prayers, least of all from such a hypocrite.

FEW SPANIARDS

"The majority of the forces we saw on these fronts were Moors

and foreigners, and three battalions of young Spaniards, of the 1938 and 1939 drafts. The Spanish soldiers are treated very badly, very poorly clothed, underfed, and full of misery. Some of them told us that they had been at the front for three months, and they still had not been given blankets. They all greatly desired the war to end. They are tired, without enthusiasm, without fire. And their most often asked question is: "When, when will the war end?"

This is Frank's whole story—except for one last thing: he and his companion got fed up with the drudgery of trench-digging, and one night they decided, as many had before them and many others since, to make a break for the Loyalist lines. How they succeeded in escaping is another story, one that will have to be told at another time.

FASCIST SPAIN TODAY

What concerns us most in this account is the picture of fascist-held Spain today. The people, sucked dry and empty, wait hopefully for the government troops to conquer their towns, their fields and villages, so that they will be liberated from the bestial rule of Franco and his German and Italian masters. And sometimes, when it gets so unbearable that even death is preferable to continued life under fascist rule, they rise up in a last, desperate effort, doomed to failure because they have no arms, because their young men and mature men are far away. It is the sound of their struggles that we hear on the government side of the war-front. Each rising of this kind saps the strength of Franco, already greatly diminished after a year of battle. Each flash in the enemy sky tells us, more clearly than words that the people are waiting for us to advance, to conquer, to free all of Spain. And since July the offensive has passed into the government's hands. With this fact already a reality, with dissension growing ever greater in Franco's rear, the true government of Spain grows surer every day that victory is in sight. How close this victory is depends not only on the People's Army's growing strength, but also, to a great extent, on the actions of the democracies of Europe and America.

THE NYON CONFERENCE A STEP FORWARD

In spite of the efforts made by Germany and Italy to torpedo it up to the last moment, the Nyon Conference has been held, and has taken decisions which will be immediately put into action.

In two months, more than 30 vessels had been victims of the new reign of piracy in the Mediterranean. Faced with this situation and the firm attitude adopted by the Soviet Union, it was not possible for Britain and France to continue to turn the blind eye. Italy would have liked to see this problem, like so many others, "dealt with" at London, of which the Fascist powers have so many pleasant memories, and where such consideration has always been shown to their sensitive feelings.

NYON DECISIONS

The decisions of the Conference may be summarised as follows:

The Governments participating in it will order their warships to protect any merchant shipping not belonging to either of the conflicting parties in Spain. Any submarine which attacks another vessel, thereby constituting a breach of International Law, will be counter-attacked and if possible destroyed.

In the Western Mediterranean the protection of shipping will be carried out by Britain and France. In the Eastern Mediterranean, the task will fall on the Governments concerned. On the high seas excluding the Adriatic, and up to the entrance of the Dardanelles, the British and French fleets will protect shipping. The other powers participating in the agreement with a Mediterranean coastline undertake to give these fleets the support required.

SUBMARINE RULES

The powers participating in the Conference will send no submarine out to sea, except in certain zones reserved for manoeuvres, without previously notifying the other powers, and in this case every submarine will sail on the surface and be accompanied by a surface vessel. No foreign submarine will be allowed in the territorial waters of the contracting

powers, except in the case of unavoidable necessity, or subject to pre-arranged conditions.

The powers are to recommend their merchant vessels to follow certain main routes in the Mediterranean. Any power wishing to withdraw from the agreement must give thirty days' notice.

The agreement was signed by the nine powers present at the Conference, namely: Britain, Bulgaria, Egypt, France, Greece, Rumania, Turkey, the U. R. S. S. and Jugoslavia.

NO "PRIVATE LAKE"

The agreement is a first and important step against the acts of piracy by the Fascist aggressors. The Mediterranean ceases to be their private lake. And the presence of strong British and French naval forces means that Italy's dreams of domination in the Mediterranean will disappear in smoke.

There are some grave defects. Litvinov pointed out in his speech: "I regret the absence of the State which has suffered most from piracy: Republican Spain... The presence of Spain will be a contribution to the pacification of the Mediterranean." But Republican Spain has been excluded from the agreement, and her merchant shipping is not protected by the agreement. While the agreement does not recognise Franco as beligerent, it does not give the Spanish Government its rights in International Law. The decisions taken only refer to submarines, but vessels of other types have played their part in the piracy, and planes have sunk two Soviet ships.

ADVANCE FOR PEACE

As "Izvestia" says: "The Conference was called on the initiative of Britain and France, but the concrete results have been due to the activity and the correct line of Soviet diplomacy which declared its position with the needful firmness and determination before the Conference took place."

Notwithstanding its serious defects the Agreement represents an advance for the forces of peace and collective security, and a serious setback for Fascist aggres-



Women Shock Brigade Workers Meet.

Written During An

AIRPLANE ATTACK

Dawn still sleeps; but we awake,
Aware that soon those shadows in
The sky may hover.

Everywhere about us the earth is raw,
With wounds from shells and bombs, and holes
Dug by men.

Blood has flowed here, has wet this earth
On which we lie; and blood will flow again —
But our thoughts are not of this.

We oil our guns, adjust our clothes,
Dig deep the earth — prepare to hide in it,
To hug it close.

And then those shadows come! We seize upon the earth
We have prepared — become part of it —
Become earth...

Not a finger moves: expectantly we wait —
Some fearfully — for a sign: are they theirs,
Or ours? marked with red or black?

Then suddenly the roar! Earth again is torn,
Into a million parts leaps high; and shrapnel spreads
And mingles with the smoke.

More! and more! Closer! More deadly!
Intenser — bombs — cries of pain from mules and men,
All covered by earth and dust...

Then silence... The beasts have gone...
We tear ourselves from the earth,
Become men again.

DANIEL HUTNER
American Volunteer Killed In
Action — September, 1937

sion. A relatively decisive answer has been given to Italian pretensions in the Mediterranean. The agreement is only a first step, but the very fact that this step has

been taken is of great importance for the preservation of the peace of Europe.

BREWERY CARRIES ON UNDER ENEMY'S FIRE

During the 14 months of civil war in Spain, profound changes have taken place in the economic and social conditions of this country. Since the July 18th uprising of the military clique headed by General Franco, in the interests of German and Italian Fascism, we have all heard of the great progress made in the destruction of the feudal relations in the countryside, the granting of land to the peasants—the former possessions of the nobility and the idle parasitic absentee landlords.

Life has also taken a new turn for the city industrial workers. A visit to some of the Madrid factories gives ample proof that present social changes are also bringing economic improvement and industrial freedom to the toiling masses of Spain.

BEER FOR THE MEN

We enter the gates of Madrid's largest brewery, "El Aquila" beer factory. The delegation, consisting of a group of German, American, Polish and French anti-fascist fighters is keenly interested in how the factory workers are making out. We are met at the entrance of the plant by the director, who shows us around. A glance at the factory walls indicates that we are very near to the front. The workers of "El Aquila" are only a few kilometres from the fascist lines—carrying on their work in the midst of the great war for their national independence. We are informed from the outset that, due to war conditions, production is only 20 percent of normal, i. e. 50,000 litres of beer yearly as against 250,000 in past years. It is easy to understand this fact, when we are told that of the 550 workers of this brewery, some 300 volunteered for service in the army to defend their city against the fascist invaders. Those who remained, mostly elderly workers, are not exempt from the murderous designs of the fascists. Only last week a shell from the fascist artillery from the Uesera-Cerro Rojo fascist lines, struck the plant, killing five workers peacefully engaged in production. On entering the director's office, we noticed the walls covered with portraits of young men—all "El Aquila" heroes who gave their lives in defense of their government and their liberty.

The workers in this plant carry on despite the shellings by the fascists. Due to the nearness of the front, we learned that no production is carried on at night, as the electric lights would be a perfect target for the fascist artillery. The men work from 7 a. m. to 1 p. m., every day of the week — although paid for a full day's work. This plant, formerly the property of a stock-holding company, is now run and managed by the workers through their elected committees, under government control and supervision. The president of the company having died in the early days of the uprising, the workers undertook to run the plant and they run it well, indeed. No interests are being paid to former stock holders. The profits of the plant going exclusively to the workers and their families.

WORKERS' CONTROL

The workers through their trade unions (all workers organized into trade unions), elect a committee of seven to administer the affairs of production and distribution as well as those of social welfare of the employees. The committee consists of six UGT and one CNT members—a direct reflection of the fact that some 450 workers were in the UGT and 30 in the CNT at the time of the outbreak of Franco's rebellion.

Despite the difficulties created by the war, the plant manages to buy raw materials (barley) from the peasants in Toledo province, coal from Tarancon, and to import

hops from France to the extent of 2 million pesetas annually, and to keep things moving. The beer produced is sold to private cafes and restaurants, although mainly to the Intendancias of the Army, for use for the front, for distribution among the fighters of the People's Army, who so valiantly defend the great city of Madrid.

WAGES INCREASED

The workers' wages have risen to about 5 pesetas more, daily, than before. The wages now range from 12 pesetas daily for unskilled men to 20 pesetas for the more experienced and skilled workers. The plant has set up a social insurance fund, whereby the disabled workers—those who fought to stop the fascist hordes at the gates of Madrid—are amply provided for. The widows of "El Aquila" workers, who have fallen in the war, receive 5 pesetas daily from this insurance fund. We visited the large and clean communal dining room where dinners are served to the "El Aquila" workers for 2 pesetas, as well as the plant first-aid station and clinic. There is also a library where workers can spend their time reading and in self-study.

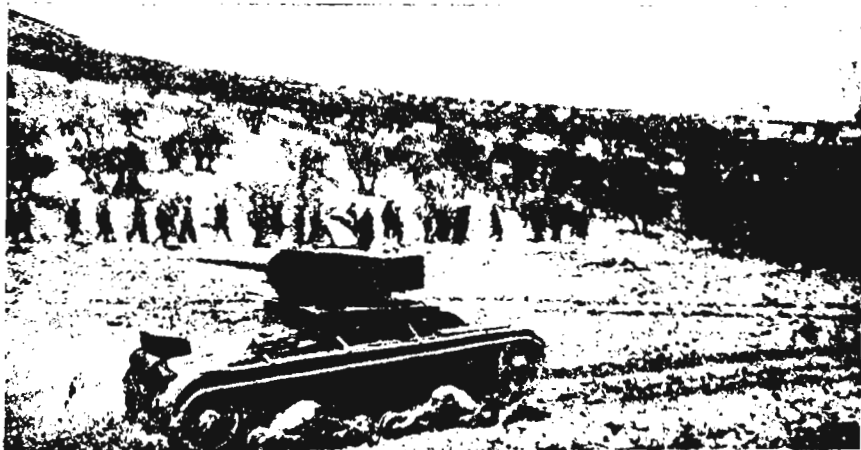
A visit to the "El Cafeto" factory of Simon Martínez revealed to the delegation a situation very similar to that described in the brewery. This factory, still privately owned, is also controlled and managed by a joint UGT-CNT workers' committee. This factory, famous in Spain for its production of chocolate, is now producing chocolate and coffee exclusively for the Army Intendencia. Out of the profits of the plant, the committee pays the taxes to

the government and keeps the balance for the purchase of raw materials (sugar, coffee beans, nuts, etc.). Here too we saw half of the 120 workers previously employed now in the ranks of the People's Army. The other half carry on production and in their spare time maintain a poultry farm. The "farm" is on an old football field adjacent to the factory. Starting with some scant donations of chickens, rabbits, ducks, goats and pigeons by peasants in Madrid province, they are building a permanent poultry farm to provide eggs to military hospitals, and, through care and attention, increasing their live stock to be able to supply many a chicken dinner to the soldiers wounded in the struggle for democracy.

In the "El Cafeto" plant too the workers wages have increased to as high as 14 pesetas daily for the more skilled workers; and through their direct management of the plants, they are able to bring about great improvements in their daily life. They have their discussion meetings, hear reports of their elected committees and take an active part in the administration of the plant. A wall newspaper keeps them informed of events at the war front as well as on the industrial front.

The delegation left these factory workers with their clenched fists raised and the traditional "Salud" on their lips. We had the feeling that the workers on the industrial front, in the rearguard, are also conscientiously carrying on and contributing to the great fight for a great, free, independent and prosperous Spain.

D. M.



They Advanced as if on Maneuvers. — Gen. Walter.

SPANISH GROUP FORMED TO AID EVACUATED KIDS

The Ministry of Public Education and Health recently created in Paris the Spanish Committee for Evacuated Children with Juan Comas Camps as director. This group will be responsible for the settlement, organization, education and inspection of those Spanish children who have been sent abroad since the war started, regardless of the organization that assisted in their evacuation or now contributes to their maintenance.

The main objective of the delegation is to coordinate the efforts made by various foreign commi-



tees, which it hopes to accomplish by placing all colonies and nurseries for Spanish refugee children abroad under its control and given them centralized direction.

The delegation will take a complete census of all Spanish evacuated children in collective colonies and private homes, endeavoring to increase the number of children in colonies and decrease that of children in homes. In special cases where children have to be placed with private families, preference will be given Spanish emigres, of course after previously making thorough investigations of the surroundings and circumstances.

Special attention will be paid to the education of the refugee children. On August 6 the Government published a decree whose purpose is to prevent the children from losing contact with Spain culture or forgetting the language. At the same time they will benefit by the culture of the country in which they have their temporary residence. The education and teaching of the children will be under the care of Spanish teachers.

Of special interest to foreign committees is the fact that in colonies totally or partially supported by foreign groups, they can, in accordance with the Delegation, designate a person to act in its name in the administration. The teaching staff and the educational regime will depend exclusively on the Delegation.



EL CAMPESINO

Non-Intervention Finds New Victim

While the Chinese delegate was defending his people's rights before the League of Nations and demanding the application of the Covenant of the League on their behalf, the decision of the United States was made public to forbid all future export of arms to Japan and China. This not only constitutes a retreat before Japanese imperialism it is a serious blow to peace in the Far East. The results can only be favorable to Japan. Her fleet is in a position to blockade China which has no powerful war industry, and will experience all the difficulties of Republican Spain.

The U. S. A. has laid the basis for more "non-intervention". The situation produced by such a policy in Europe should have served as a warning, and it is no secret, moreover, that the ambitious military plans of Japanese imperialism include an attack on the United States.

It is an ominous sign that the first act of the farce of "non-intervention" is now being played in the Far East.

Canadian and British Labor Support Spain

OTTAWA (Sept. 17).—The Trade Union Congress of Canada has declared itself in favor of a boycott of all goods exported by fascist nations. The Congress endorsed the policy adopted by the International Federation of Trade Unions in regards to the civil war in Spain and in the struggle to safeguard democracy.

NORWICH (Sept. 7).—The Trade Union Congress placed on record "its high appreciation of the gallant struggle of our Spanish comrades and those of the International Brigades against Fascism, which is a deadly enemy of trade unionism, and most heartily wishes them every success against the common enemy".

The Congress also adopted a resolution in favor of loyalist Spain, deploring the fact that the British and other governments continue to deny the legal govern-

BATTALION OF FASCIST DESERTERS AT CARABANCHEL

MADRID.—On one of the Carabanchel fronts there is a battalion composed almost entirely of deserters from the rebel trenches. Many of these soldiers have received honorable mention "in the official reports and others have" had their bravery rewarded promotion to higher rank.

There is one who has conducted himself with such bravery, that he has reached the rank of lieutenant and enjoys both the respect and the love of his subordinates.

Another of these deserter soldiers is a man about forty. He was a well-to-do manufacturer of tiles at Aranda de Duero before the war. He could not live under the oppression of the Fascist regime even though the rebels of Aranda had nothing against him. One day he decided to leave the town with his wife and thirteen-year-old son. After several days of walking they reached the Republican lines stop.

In the fascist propaganda talks to our lines, they invite our soldiers to desert to their side. One night, the men of this battalion of deserters answered, "Don't waste your time on us, we have already escaped from fascist territory".

Recently some runners from this battalion started for the rebel lines at night with Popular Front propaganda posters. On the way they came up against a rebel watch but succeeded in avoiding it. They posted the posters on the walls of a house practically in the rebel trenches.

ment of Spain the right under international law to purchase the necessary arms and equipment thus affording support to the fascist rebels.

The Congress expressed its complete solidarity with the Spanish government and called for an end to the farce of non-intervention.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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THE BACKGROUND OF CHINESE UNITY

One of the most outstanding features of the Sino-Japanese conflict in recent weeks has been the growth and consolidation of the Chinese national front. And this has not sprung up mushroom-fashion. For years Chiang Kai-Shek's main efforts were spent in a futile struggle to annihilate Communism in China, the Chinese Soviet areas, and the Chinese Red Army. China's interests as a nation were sacrificed right and left in the pursuance of this aim. It is only the pressure of the Chinese people, the hard patient work of the real friends of China, and the ever more blatant pressure of Japanese aggression which have led to a reversal in the policy of Nanking.

Already in July 1936 the formation of a National Defence Council, with representatives of the provincial governments, was a tentative step in the direction of national unity. At this time Chiang Kai-Shek declared that the hour for final sacrifice would come if an attempt were made to

force China to recognise the Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo, or if her territorial sovereignty were again violated. This was followed by an increasingly firm attitude on the part of the Chinese authorities to the various Japanese provocations, but national unity was still far from complete, as was shown by the fact that as late as February this year the Central Executive Committee of the Koumintang published a manifesto containing the statement that the cardinal policy of the central authorities should be to root out the Communists by every means at their disposal.

THE SIANFU INCIDENT

One of the key stones in the complicated structure of Chinese unity was laid by the correct policy of the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Red Army in the Sianfu incident, when Chiang Kai-Shek was kidnapped by Chang Hsueh Liang. It is certain that at

(Continued on page 5)

A STRUGGLE AHEAD SO MUCH THE BETTER

BY ALEXIS TOLSTOI

The days of sumptuous conferences, of elegant meetings of the different Committees, the days of France and England's ostrich policy, of unparalleled meanness and cowardice—those days are ended.

The Pirate Flag is hoisted openly in the Mediterranean. France finds herself cut off from Northern Africa, and England from the Suez Canal. The Fascist programme has been published. The second Roman Empire and the third German Empire between them are directing Europe, including, naturally, England—and old Roman colony.

This is the final announcement. The lion-tamer must now grasp his whip and go into the jackals' cage. That is our proposal to all the constitutional powers and Republics of Europe.

For our part, we have taken careful note of the fact that two of our merchant vessels have been sunk by the Italian fascist submarines. Ours is a serious-minded people, and it considers seriously its historic undertakings. We shall do what we have decided to do, whatever may stand in our road.

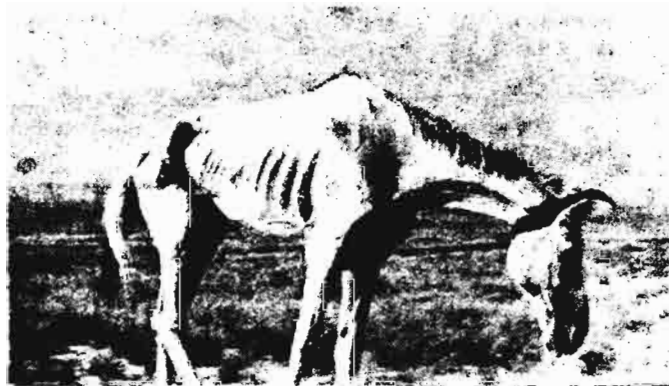
We shall answer the news of the torpedoing of our ships in such a manner that Mussolini will have no time to confess his crimes. Our forces and our means are inexhaustible. Inexhaustibly vast. Naturally it is more agreeable to devote ourselves to building universities and sports stadiums than warships. But world fascism has forced us to build a great Soviet Navy, and it shall be built. The Soviet Navy will be the strongest in the world; and that is as true as the fact that in ten years we have caught up with European heavy industry, and passed it.

That is not the most wonderful side. The wonderful thing is that at the same time we shall go on building universities and stadiums. We shall not divide our forces, we shall double them. Our task consists in forcing the world to follow a road which avoids imperialist war, and this is possible if we become stronger than the whole imperialist world.

This task can be accomplished. It lies in the realm of reality. We are very near to accomplishing it. The idea must be driven like a nail into everyone's brain that we are living in a great and terrible epoch. It is and will have to be the duty of each one of us to know how to organise our efforts, our ability, in a Stakhanovite manner, to know how to subordinate our life and our creative activity.

The greatest happiness in life lies in feeling one's own strength, and we are masters of our own strength when "every muscle is brought into play", when all our mental energy is directed to achievements each day renewed.

Before us—the struggle. Then so much the better!



THE WHITE HORSE on which Franco was going to ride triumphantly into Madrid. But that was a year ago. Meanwhile, look what's happened to the poor horse, which we found grazing weakly in the fields when we took y Belchite. Franco is still fat, however but not for long.

WE VISIT A STEEL FOUNDRY IN MADRID

What attracted the attention of our delegation of five from the International Brigades as we filed into the office—reminiscent of many factory offices in the States—was a red, yellow and purple certificate on the grey wall, which read in Spanish as follows:

Republica, Commercial de Hierros (Irons), incautado por el Estado en virtud del decreto de agosto, 1936. (Taken over by the State in virtue of the decree of August 2, 1936).

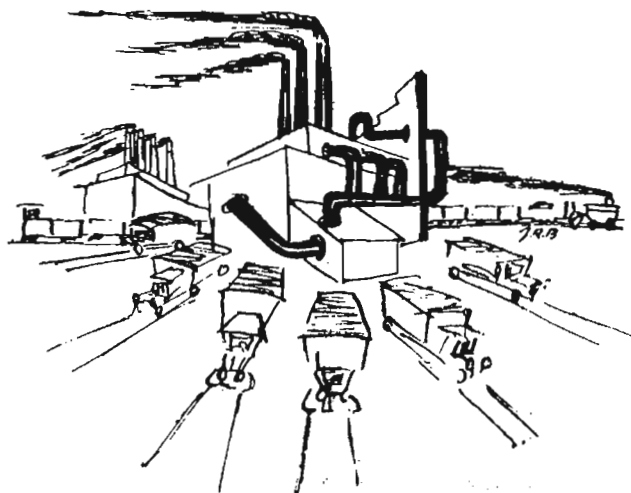
The President of the Factory Committee, working at his desk in blue overalls, was not expecting visitors, but he welcomed us cordially. At that moment a sudden burst of machine gun fire, followed by several grenade explosions, came as sharp and clear as the clang of the steel sledge hammers being wielded by workmen in the mill yard. The President, catching our inquisitive look, climbed out of his swivel chair and strolled to the window a few feet away. Pointing southward he said, "See, comrades, that house between two lone trees on the brow of that hill? Well, that's where the fascists are! They can see us, and we can see them."

Before the civil war broke out in July, 1936, this mill was in the hands of the absentee capitalists who extracted their profits through representatives that conducted the operation of the factory. As soon as the war started, the Government took over the mill; the representatives didn't lose time in scamming from the country. By driving out the fascist-minded, the workers were able to start production of war materials.

PRODUCING FOR WAR

However, up to this time the mill had been used only for the production of iron-construction materials for buildings. Consequently, for it to be turned into a war factory required many changes in machinery and methods of production which proved difficult, but were finally accomplished with skilful ingenuity. In November, when the fascists were threatening to enter Madrid on the morrow, all the workers of the mill as one man marched to the front. It was impossible to work in the mill at the time because of the heavy concentration of fire

EVEN WOMEN SWING SLEDGE HAMMERS TO FORGE BETTER LIFE FOR FUTURE



on it from the approaching invaders. Airplane bombardments directed against the plant was a daily feature.

Normally the mill employs 500 to 600 men. Now because most of their young men have gone to the fronts, there are only 320 workers, most of them above 40 years of age. The workers are represented by the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. The Factory Committee, whose function is equivalent to that of an executive committee of any organization, is composed of 11 men—a president, secretary, and 9 delegates—all elected by the workers of the plant. Each member of the committee takes part in the production as well as in the administration of the plant. In addition there is one representative, also elected, from each working unit throughout the mill who serves as liaison man between the factory committee and the men. He can be said to be his section political commissar. The factory has in its administrative staff a government official who assists in coordinating the work between the government and the factory.

BIG WAGE INCREASE

Wages range from 14 pesetas a day on up, according to qualifications; and an 8 hour day and a 6 day week. This is a 40 per-

cent increase in pay from that which they received under the old regime. There is no night work because electric lights would make a perfect target for enemy artillery.

In the early days of the war they made armoured-cars and machine guns, to the surprise of other steel mills in the vicinity that immediately followed the example. It is true that these balloon tire armoured-cars they made were unable to cope with the powerful modern German and

Italian tanks they faced on the battle-front.

NEW INVENTIONS

Whereas under the old regime the workers had none or very little incentive to improve the speed of their work, that is now changed. By intensive and enthusiastic application they have invented many devices that speed up production. For instance, during the early days they used to fill machine gun belts with cartridges by hand, often ripping the belt. Now, by having invented a simple machine, they are able to insert as many cartridges in a belt in ten minutes as, formerly, it took two hours to do. They have modeled a machine-gun-rifle disc that holds more bullets and works better than other types. Many of the food cans which the comrades use at the front to keep their food hot were originated here. Another interesting contraption they've invented is a machine that has eliminated hours of useless labor. Formerly, men hammered all day long straightening out wire and cutting required lengths by hand. Now this can be done by automatic machinery, straightening and cutting the wire more accurately and a 1000 percent more rapidly. These same workers have also made a huge loudspeaker, which is used at the front to propagandize the fascists.

A collective kitchen, where the workers of the mill eat for

(Continued on page 6.)



STEEL FACTORY WORKERS next to one of their earliest production runs of the hastily-built armored cars used by our army during the first months of the war.

José Colom - People's Captain

From the Spanish of Manuel Altolaguirre

Under your wings the winds are strong,
And a song of scorn for the tyrant's chain
You hear at your ear in the motor's roar—
"For the Land, the People, for Spain, for Spain!"
O People's Captain, lone in the sky,
Your eye is wet as you look below—
Scorned of fears, you gaze through tears
On the hills you love and the land you know.
What harvest is this in the peasant's field?—
What yield of death where the vineyard stood?
See! Treason's hand has ravaged the land,
The rivers are red with the People's blood!
O José Colom, look down, look down,
O cloud-cloaked captain, now mark you well
The muster of Roman, Goth and Moor,
The Court of Judas, the Camp of Hell!

But turn, José, to the rising sun,
Unbowed behold us for whom you fly:
In vale and village, from town and tillage,
The People muster with banners high.
The People, the People!—their vow is spoken,
Spain is not broken nor bowed in fear—
Before death claims you and history names you,
The People's answer, O Captain, hear!

Under your wings the winds have failed,
Hailed by death you were swift to go.
Your plane, yourself, were your only weapons,
We saw you crash as you dashed the foe.
Ah People's Captain, José Colom,
No sad nor solemn dirge is mine:
Your name and fame I fling as a flame
To summon the brave to the firing-line!
By the light of your deeds we dig our trenches,
And swear the vengeance that is your due—
When the Moor is dead and the Goth's forgotten,
When the Roman's fled and the traitor's rotten,
The People, the People, will sing of you!

SHAEMAS O'SHEEL

10,000 Babies in Madrid Less Than Year Old

There are ten thousand babies in Madrid today under one year of age. The mothers of these children are unable to feed them at the breast.

Even in normal times in Madrid, ten percent of the children born died before they were a year old. If this was the average in peace time, it is tragic to imagine what might have occurred in war. But the slogan of the people of Madrid has been "children first".

Ignorance of scientific methods brought about the high infant mortality. Convinced that its duties towards the babies cannot be fulfilled simply by handing mothers a little fresh or condensed milk, the Council has opened centers for baby care all over Madrid. There every mother brings her child. The child is weighed and examined at the center, and a careful record made. A diet list is made out, the mother is given the exact formula for mixing the child's milk and all the necessary instructions for looking after her baby. She is also supplied with powdered milk, sugar, and other necessities. If the infant fails to gain weight the formula is changed.

Every month the Madrid mothers are supplied with 40,000 kilograms of powdered milk, 6,000 of sugar, and 3,000 of flour.

In the near future it is hoped to extend the service to babies over one year as well.

Anthology of Poetry by Volunteers Is Planned

Volunteers are urged to send original poems, in English, to the Volunteer for Liberty, both for use in the magazine and for publication in an anthology of verse by English-speaking comrades in Spain. Please write your own name and address on every manuscript submitted.

Stories, articles, letters and other contributions to these pages are always welcome. Address: The Volunteer for Liberty, S. R. I., 63E, Albacete.

In the Rebel Zone

A recent radio talk by Queipo de Llano is particularly interesting. In his jests he continues to insist on the morality campaign and the edicts of the governors on this subject. He proposes, in his clownish way, that men and women should be dressed in sacks showing only their eyes, on which they should wear dark spectacles.

★

"A B C" de Seville, pronounced an exhortation apropos of the "lack of respect" of the public when they hear the "National Hymn".

★

Franco has announced that every spent cartridge which is brought in to the civil governors, staff headquarters or barracks, will be rewarded with one centimo.



ARAGON BATTLE SCENE: Our men, entrenched on a hilltop, watch the planes speeding off enemy terrain.

Bombing the

AMERICAN HOSPITALS THROW A CHILDREN'S PARTY

They marched down the road from the American Hospital of Saelices, by the ruins of the Convent castle of Castillejo towards the clearing in the woods, by the creek.

More than 300 of them. Girls first, boys after, singing the International, shouting the Young Guard, happy, untrammelled. The Spanish girls working at the Hospital led the parade, the old folks came at the end. The day was bright. They are always bright, the days in Spain. But brighter than the day were the thoughts engendered by such a sight.

On that road, old, narrow and stony, travelled for centuries by insolent monks and men in armor, the passing peasant was a mere beast of burden only a few years ago. In the building which houses the American Hospital, Maria Cristina de Borbon reigned with an iron hand, and stories are often told of her avarice, of her meanness, of her insolence. There is no kindness or joy in the face of the peasant women when they talk of her. And now, with feudalism



HOSPITAL CHIEF: Dr. Irving Busch, snapped while watching the festivities.

in all its brutality and ignorance still a recent experience in the lives even of the young ones, the whole population of Saelices, all their organizations, in a living united front were holding a picnic for the children, in co-operation with the American Hospital staff, with an orchestra furnis-

hed by the Cuenca Branch of the Socorro Rojo Internacional, which was represented at the picnic by its president, Comrade Julian Lopez.

This picnic, not many miles from the front, in the midst of war and revolution, kept throwing one's mind back years and generations. Everything conspired in that direction. Not only the setting. What was more evident was the great enthusiasm among the younger generation in singing the Joven Guardia, often greater than in singing the International. And why not? Why sing only

Arise ye prisoners of starvation.
Arise ye wretched of the earth.

when a whole nation has arisen, when for hundreds of kilometers on a front from the Pyrenees to the Mediterranean, through mountains and deserted fields, hundreds of thousands of peasants, muleteers, factory workers professional people and even storekeepers are holding back and pushing back the forces which



CLIMBING THE GREASED POLE. One of Spanish kids at the picnic, tackling a new, imported sport.

would restore the power of the clergy, return the palace of Maria Cristina to the royal house... How appropriate the lines:

Somos la Joven Guardia
que va forjando el porvenir.

And the children of Saelices instinctively knew it. The International was a song learned and loved, but the Joven Guardia was felt and lived.

There wasn't the slightest doubt among the boys, trying, not very successfully, to climb the pole, that the earth was theirs. When from a corner of the field someone started to sing their song, down came the human column which was cooperatively trying to climb the too damn-well greased pole, and they all joined the chorus, fists raised.

Nor did they stop at the end of the first verse. After the refrain:

Es la lucha final que comienza
la revancha de los que ansian pan:
en la revolución que está en marcha
los esclavos el triunfo alcanzarán.

sung with meaningful severity, came the second verse, reminiscent and full of promise:

Hijos de la miseria

Más hambre no hemos de sufrir
Nuestras las fábricas serán.



HOSPITAL PICNIC SCENES. The children salute, drink leche, play and pose for our photographer.



PEASANT GIRL, photographed at the hospital picnic.

The woods were echoing their strong and vibrant voices. In the faces of the parents was reflected the joy over the victory against fascism and feudalism, but mingled with sadness and bitterness evoked by losses and past sufferings. Not so for the children. Theirs was the fiesta and theirs the world. They knew that:

*Mañana por las calles
masas en triunfo marcharán;
ante la Guardia Roja
los poderosos temblarán.*

Doctor Irving Busch, Commander of the American Hospital in Spain, was as pleased and happy as any of the children. The nurses distributed toys (one for every child) the cakes, the sandwiches. Al Stone Political Commissar of the base, busy as a brood hen corraling ducklings, was everywhere, and when evening came and Comrade Julian Lopez expressed the wish that such affairs be held

often and regularly, it was amusing to watch the startled expression of Stone who had just wiped the perspiration from his forehead after shipping the last ambulance-load of children back to Saelices.

After supper the nurses, the whole hospital staff, many of the wounded, now convalescing, the delegations of the the workers or-



HOMeward BOUND. Riding the burro home, after a day of fun.



"THEY MARCHED down the road, more than 300 of them, singing..."

ganizations of Saelices and Cuenca, danced. In the library room of the Infanta Maria Cristina de Borbon, with the old painting still hanging, the room festooned with colored paper, joy reigned.

And when the dance came to an end, and that only because of exhaustion, Stone found his way to his room and under the rich woolen spread on which the Infanta had her name and crown richly embroidered, no doubt thought of bigger and better picnics for the children of Saelices.

H. A.

THE BACKGROUND OF CHINESE UNITY

(Continued from page 1.)

this time, had the Red Army so wished, it could have marched through Shensi and considerably increased its strength, at the same time settling various old scores. It is equally certain that such action would have plunged China into a sharp civil war which would have been an immense asset to Japan. The Chinese Soviet Government and the Chinese Red Army did not take the bait. On the contrary, they played a leading part in securing Chiang Kai-Shek's release, frustrated the plans of the Japanese agents, and helped the Chinese people to realize more clearly where some of China's best friends were to be found.

In connection with Chiang's release, Chou En-Lai, Vice Chairman of the Red Army's Military Council, flew to Sianfu and from there to Nanking.

Negotiations between the Chinese Soviet leaders and the Nank-

ing Government began shortly after the Sianfu affair, and at long last the Nanking Government has made the following official statement:

"China's Government at Nanking and the Communist Army have been fighting for ten years. The struggle is now over."

Previous to this, Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Chinese Soviet Government, and Chuh-teh, Commander in Chief of the Red Army, had been in Nanking for discussions with the Kuomintang Military Council.

The Chinese Red Army has now become the 8th Route Army of the Central Government Army of China, and Chuh-teh has been officially gazetted as its commander-in-chief. The Army is defending the key sectors of Nankow and Chahar on the Northern Front.

The Central Chinese Government has released hundreds of political prisoners.

In a war which will probably be of a very mobile character, and in which the policy of the Chinese forces will be to avoid big decisive battles in the early stages, a war of sudden attacks followed by withdrawal, swift concentration and dispersal, the Chinese Red Army, with its long experience of guerilla warfare and rapid movement, with its complete reliability founded on the political understanding of its soldiers, will be of inestimable value in China's struggle against Japan.

JAPAN'S DIFFICULTIES BEGINNING

At the same time as China is uniting all her forces, there are the first signs of military and political difficulties facing Japan. The Japanese Prime Minister has announced that the situation is one of "particular gravity" and

has uttered a warning against "premature optimism". Coming from the Japanese authorities, who at the beginning of their aggression showed just such premature optimism in their estimation of China's capacity for resistance, such a declaration can only have one meaning.

There is no doubt that the growth of mass unrest in Japan, corresponding to a difficult economic situation, has been one of the factors which decided the military-fascist ruling clique to launch their new attack at this time. In the hope of balancing Japanese economy with the cotton and the cattle, the metals and the coal of the Northern provinces. But their object will scarcely be secured if the war is prolonged, with the consequent strain on Japanese resources, and this is precisely what appears to be happening.

A. M. K.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE FASCIST PIRATES

Fascism grows ever more desperate.

When German and Italian fascism, with the aid, of the traitor generals, attacked the Spanish people a year ago, it anticipated that within a few weeks it would be in control of the whole of the Spanish peninsula. And an impartial observer, marking the circumstances under which the invasion took place, might well be forgiven for agreeing with the fascist estimate. But what fascism had failed to take into account was the indomitable courage of the Spanish people and the active sympathy of the progressive forces of the whole world with the Republic in its struggle.

When it became evident that the easy victory it had anticipated would not be achieved, fascism still thought that by reason of its tremendously superior technical equipment and trained forces, it would achieve victory within a year of the commencement of the war. And for a time it also looked as if this estimate might be true. The untrained militia was being forced back at every point, despite the desperate courage it always displayed.

But a year has come and gone. Far from having achieved victory, fascism has been fought to a standstill and the growing power of the Spanish People's Army, with its increasingly better technical equipment, is steadily throwing back the fascist invaders.

PIRATICAL ATTACKS

In its utter desperation, fascism resorts to ever more reckless methods. On August 31st, the British destroyer, "Havock", was attacked by an unknown submarine. This attack was the culmination of a long series of piratical attacks on Mediterranean shipping.

The piracy commenced with the sinking of Spanish and Russian ships proceeding to or from Spain. Encouraged by the lack of concerted action by the Powers, it gradually extended to all shipping, of whatever nationality (excepting, of course, fascist shipping), that might be passing through the Middle Sea, whether its destination might be loyalist Spain or not. Spanish, Russian, French, Greek, Danish, Panaman and British vessels have all been attacked by aeroplanes, submarines and destroyers.

The surreptitious help and support that the British "National" Government has been lending to the designs of the fascists is being repaid with true fascist reciprocity. Not content with the control it has achieved over the Imperial British trade routes, fascism insists on *showing* its control in order to force further help.

MEDITERRANEAN PARLEY

With mixed motives, the British Government, assented to the calling of a conference of the Mediterranean Powers to deal with the question of the pirates, the "unknown pirates", as it called them with delightful naïveté.

It attended the conference with three objects:

1. To attempt to uphold the last traces of its prestige, which its constant withdrawals before fascist aggressions have brought lower than at any time in British history.

2. To protect that of its shipping not engaged in transporting food and supplies to loyalist Spain.

3. And to do all in its power, as far as it was consistent with the foregoing, to court fascist favour by giving it the particular kind of assistance that only the "National" Government can give.

PLANS RUDELY UPSET

But during the conference its plans were rudely upset. There

was at least one Power in Europe which was not at all disposed to tolerate the fog of diplomatic mumbo jumbo with which it was intended to surround the conference and cover a further betrayal of the fight against fascist aggression in Europe.

The representative of the USSR, did not bother to keep up the polite fiction that no one knew who the pirates were. To the horror of the British delegation, he stated in unmistakable terms who the pirates were and demanded their suppression.

After a long fight, the British plan, by which it was intended open the way to the giving of belligerent rights to Franco, was discarded. The plan which was eventually adopted is by no means a perfect instrument for the suppression of the pirates, but it will make their task considerably more difficult.

It would be over-optimistic to expect the British Government to fully implement the plan, yet there are signs that the antifascist forces (and even among the Governments own supporters, there are strong elements which disagree radically with its policy) are gathering strength and will compel a conducting of foreign affairs very different from the past. A letter to the "Times" by Mr. Wickham Steed, a past editor of the same paper, makes very interesting reading. Here is a short extract.

"If our policy induces a belief among other peoples, which like ourselves, hate war and love freedom, that we shall not raise a finger to help them should they be exposed to foreign aggression, we may foster this aggression and help to bring on a major war. Or our policy may drive these peoples to make terms with potential aggressors and thus leave us in a moral and political situation the reverse of splendid."

It is its reckless attempts to extend war, fascism is opening the eyes of more and more of the British people as to what is its real significance, and we can visualise a time when the "National" Government will no longer be able to maintain its precarious balance and offer the aggressors the aid it has given them in the past five years.



WE VISIT A STEEL FOUNDRY

(Continued from Page 2.)

1 peseta 75 centimos a day, is located in what was formerly a long blue-print office. War posters decorate the neatly painted walls. A sign near the entrance of the kitchen says; "Comrades, the state of this dining-hall will indicate the degree of our culture. Another sign, significantly displayed, emphasises: "Unity will bring us Victory. Fascism is the culture of barbarism."

They have their wall-paper, and they issue an attractive monthly magazine called "Hoy" (Today).

Classes in the technical processes of production are conducted after work hours. Recently 21 women attended these classes regularly. These women are now ready and anxious to take the places

of their men if these men are called to the front. Yes, women in the steel mills, swinging sledge hammers to forge a better life for the future.

To keep contact with the rear-guard "El Campesino" Division has adopted this factory. Festivals have already been held between the two groups. The fighters of the "Campesino" Division have visited the factory and in turn the Mill workers have gone to the Division to join them in their sports events and other festivities.

The unity between the front and the rear is the tremendous horse-power that is propelling us to ultimate victory against fascism.

J. T.

O. C. G.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. I - No. 17

Madrid, October 4 - 1937

SPANISH YOUTH MAPS ANTI-FASCIST FIGHT

"Unite, educate, and organize the youth of Spain to win the war and be more useful in the Revolution." With this slogan, the National Committee of the Juventud Socialista Unificada (Unified Socialist Youth) opened its plenum in the Auditorium of the Rockefeller Institute of Madrid on Friday, Sept. 24th. The sumptuous hall, once the center for indolent children of the upper classes, was used by hundreds of representatives of anti-fascist youth in a magnificent National Congress that lasted five days.

On the blue drape that hung in folds from the platform wall was a large picture of Tomás Meabe, poet and founder of the J. S. U. Also in the front of the hall, above the stage draw-curtain, in bold white letters



IN SESSION: Delegates to the J. S. U. Congress, recently held in Madrid, listening to one of the reports.

on a dark blue background, was a quotation from Lenin which significantly expresses the genuine aspirations of the liberated youth of Spain. "The youth", the quotation reads, "above all needs to have pleasure, and vital strength, sound gymnastic sports, swimming, hikes, and physical exercises of all kinds, a variety of intellectual interests, to learn, study, investigate; and they always should do so collectively if possible." Flags and banners belonging to the different representative youth organizations added to the gay unconquerable spirit of free determined youth.

DELEGATES FROM FRONT

Young military commanders, political commissars, officials, and soldiers, directly from the

front, were among the many delegates.

The Congress opened with a salute to the glorious work of the Spanish Republican Army. Homage was paid to such national figures as Azafia, Premier Negrin, Companys of Catalonia, and to the youth who have fallen in the fight for national independence.

In the midst of prolonged ovation, Jesús Hernández, Minister of Public Education, was heralded by the Congress. He greeted the Youth Congress and pointed out how closely his governmental position brings him to the youth. Among the many things he told the delegates, he mentioned the difference between a minister under the old regime and the minister of today under a People's Front Government, which can be truly said

to be a government of the Youth. "The minister of today" he said "has one duty, and that is to serve the needs of the people in the most beneficial manner."

On the second day General Miaja, illustrious defender of Madrid and great friend of the youth, greeted the plenum. Francisco Anton, Inspector-Commissar of the Army of the Center also was a guest speaker.

CARRILLO SPEAKS

The brilliant report by Santiago Carrillo, General Secretary of the J. S. U., made on the second day, can be said to be the pivot around which the Congress revolved.

Some points he outlined in his talk are:

(Continued on page 8.)



JESÚS HERNÁNDEZ

Minister of Public Education, greets the Youth Congress.



SANTIAGO CARRILLO

General Secretary of the J. S. U., delivering his report to the Congress.

TANKS

Among our comrades tanks enjoy the reputation of being fearful infernal engines of modern warfare. When the tanks suddenly advance in our direction we feel the desire to run. Nevertheless that is the most dangerous thing we can do.

We have very frequently witheld the attacks of the fascist tanks with success. The history of the early days of the war is full of heroic incidents, stories of comrades who went to meet the enemy tanks with a grenade in their hands. Today, however, we have other methods at our disposal and it is as well to remind ourselves of them.

HOW TANKS OPERATE

Tanks advance about 200 yards in front of the infantry, and their mission is to clear the ground which the infantry will occupy. The tanks' visibility is nil, so that there is no possibility of their making night attacks or of being used in very thickly wooded country. Our anti-tank bullets are effective and have already given satisfactory results. We should therefore entrust our best marksmen with the anti-tank bullets so that they can fire together in the direction of the driver of the tank, while the light machine gunners, the machine gunners and the other comrades stop the enemy infantry by keeping

up a heavy fire. This will force the tanks to halt, since they cannot dispense with the protection afforded them by their own infantry. Our trenches, constructed so as to avoid the danger of enfilading fire, will protect our bombers.

Not all types of ground are suitable for an advance by the tanks. As the tanks have to select the most suitable route to follow, it is easy to prepare very large deep traps which must be carefully camouflaged. In this way the routes which the tanks would follow can be blocked. Some of the best bombers should be near these points.

TANK OBSTACLES

A very wide ditch, with steep sides, constructed in front of the trenches, constitutes an obstacle which the tanks cannot pass at a moment when they are well within range of our bombers. Low stone walls, ruins, etc., are also useful obstacles which should be taken into account. I shall be told that all this is only possible in a position in which it has been possible to prepare a good defense in advance. But what is to be done when we have just halted after an advance? The answer to this is part of the infantryman's ABC. We must dig individual holes which later will become trenches. We should remember too that we have at our disposal



anti-tank guns and anti-tank cars which are really effective.

We can quote some experiences of the "Paris Commune" Battalion.

December 16th, 1936, at Boadilla del Monte, the 1st Company, thanks to rifle grenades and a few comrades, succeeded in stopping the advance of the tanks, while light machine gun, machine gun and rifle fire were directed against the fascist columns.

January 4th, 1937, at Remisa, the tanks' advance was stopped, thanks to heavy fire from the infantry.

February 16th, at Jarama, the 3rd Company stopped an advance of tanks through five comrades, firing in the direction of the driver, while all the rest of the Company fired on the infantry.

February 12th, the Fascist cavalry deceived our tanks by moving a wing and concealing themselves behind a mound.

March 11th, several comrades stopped the Italian fascists in front of Trijueque, in spite of the tanks and their flame throwers, on two successive occasions by keeping up an effective fire on the enemy infantry.

These examples prove that when the infantry know how to dig themselves in, each man making a fox-hole, and digging suitable trenches as soon as possible, they can withstand an attack by the enemy tanks. Consequently we should never think of running from the fascist tanks. Not only would such conduct be unworthy of a fighter for liberty, but it would

also be the most dangerous course he could take.

COMMANDER SAGNIER
11th Battalion,
14th Brigade.

Pro - Fascists Even Gyp Franco

Only the pro-fascist money-raising organization for Spain back in the United States has a shady record, financially, according to State Department figures, recently published, on the amount of relief actually sent to Spain by the various agencies, and the supplementary figures issued by the agencies themselves.

A prominent New York magazine comments on these figures as follows:

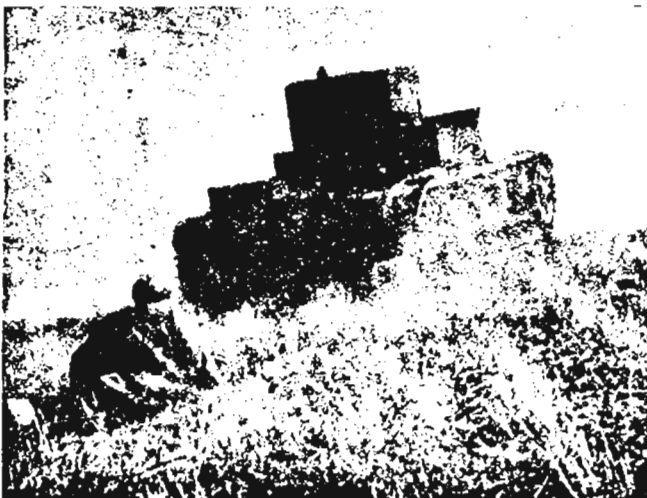
"It appears that all the groups have commendable records except the American Committee for Spanish Relief, a pro-rebel organization headed by Ogden H. Hammond, former ambassador to Spain. This organization, which was launched with a great splurge at a Madison Square Garden mass meeting, is shown to have sent not a penny to Spain out of the \$ 30,753 which it collected for war-sufferers, and to have swallowed more than \$ 25,000 in 'expenses'."

Among the pro-loyalist aid organizations, here are the records of funds sent to Spain:

North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, and Confederated Spanish Societies to Aid Spain, \$ 633,147.

Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy, \$ 119,353.

The Nation's Food Ship, \$ 25,550.



DEATH OF A SPANISH POET

EYE-WITNESS TELLS OF MURDER OF GARCIA LORCA

"That day I was on guard. I stepped aside to let pass a very young looking man being led by the Civil Guards. He was pale, but walked serenely."

The Spanish lad recounted his story, at first reluctantly, and then in a fluent, straightforward manner. A few months



GARCIA LORCA

beloved Spanish folk-poet, murdered at Granada by the fascists.

ago he escaped from fascist territory and came to our lines on the Granada front. He told how Federico García Lorca, the famous Spanish poet, met his death during the first months of the war, at the hands of the fascists.

"When I saw him", he continued solemnly, "I understood the tragedy that encircled him. Over his head hung the pall of death for having written his famous romance of the 'Civil Guards'."

"Did you know García Lorca?" he was asked.

"No; I had read him a great deal, however. I knew his works and his life. I also know of his death—the manner in which his life was ended I shall never forget. It was so monstrous, so criminal, that I can never rub it out of my memory."

The lad unfolded his story: "García Lorca was located in

JACK SHIRAI

(Japanese-American Volunteer, killed at Villanueva de la Cañada.—July, 1937)

I hear that Comrade Shirai fell.
Who did not know him?
His funny pidgin English,
His smiling eyes,
And his brave heart
Made him loved as a brother
In the Abraham Lincoln Battalion,
Jack Shirai of Hakodate,
Son of Japanese earth.
He went to America
Because at home there was no bread;
Became a cook in Frisco.
His art tickled the palates
Of the richest playboys of the city.
In the summer of nineteen hundred thirty-six,
As the newspaper wrote,
In Europe, in Spain,
The Fascist wolf had come out to murder.
Jack Shirai packed his few things
And was among the first
To come from America
Helping the Spanish people in their fight
For human rights.
When the bullets whistled
And the tearing shells burst,
Then the boys of the Lincoln Battalion
Watched Jack Shirai.
He had a laughing heart!
Once (in June on the Jarama)
He was sent as a cook
Behind the lines to a hospital.
They liked him there—the sick,
The wounded, everybody.
And the village farmers talked often
Of the Japanese who had come so far for them.
But one day he ran away,
Back to the lines—to the front.
In the North, when we cracked
The ring around Madrid,
He was there as we stormed Brunete.
And Villanueva de la Cañada.
As the night was bright
With the shine of the burning towns,
Torn by exploding bombs
And the voices of the great guns,
Jack Shirai fell.
The Abraham Lincoln Battalion
Of the People's Army of Freedom,
And the Japanese proletariat,
Will not forget him.

LUDWIG D.



JACK SHIRAI
"He had a laughing heart."

the night. The Civils placed themselves behind the headlights, from where they could not be seen.

"García Lorca walked firmly with magnificent calm. Suddenly in the middle of the road, he halted. He turned swiftly and faced us, causing the insolent Lieutenant Medina, who was commanding the Civils, to gape in astonishment.

LORCA SPEAKS

"García Lorca spoke. He did not speak feebly, nor did he plead for his life. His powerful words were in defense of the thing he always loved: Liberty. He eulogized the cause of the people, and condemned the barbarity of fascism.

"Those fiery words, produced a tremendous disturbance among the Civil Guards. For me it was like a penetrating light in my brain. The poet continued talking... but his words were cut short. Lt. Medina exploded with blasphemous words and fired his pistol at the poet. Then he set the Civil Guards against him.

CLUBBED WITH RIFLES

"The spectacle was terrible. They threw themselves upon him and struck him mercilessly with the butts of their rifles. Some of us remained stationary, too horrified to do anything. García Lorca ran and was followed by a rain of bullets. A hundred yards away he keeled over. As the murderers approached him with intentions of finishing him, he raised his body, streaming

(Continued on page 8.)

a French legation, so I was told. By means of trickery he was induced to come out. When he did so, he was seized. He was not tried by any kind of tribunal. (For that matter, neither was anybody else held by the fascists.) The night of that very same day he was pulled out of the jail where the Civil Guard had him incarcerated. Among a squad of guards he was shoved into an automobile. I am sorry to say

that I figured among this blood-thirsty group.

"The line of autos, like a sinister convoy, pulled out onto the Padul road. We were driven 18 kilometers from Granada. It was 8 o'clock at night when we finally got out of the autos. The automobile headlights were focused directly on the man who was marching to his death. The silhouette of García Lorca cut an omnipresent figure in the darkness of

HOW CARL BRADLEY EARNED HIS THREE BARS

FIGHT AT QUINTO AND BELCHITE IS DESCRIBED

VALENCIA. — Spanish soldiers and officers in the Twenty-fourth Battalion of the Fifteenth Brigade came wearily out of the Aragon offensive but lost no time petitioning their command to give the three bars of captaincy to Carl Bradley of the States. They sent a little note along to G. H. Q. in which the words heroic and gloriosa figure a number of times, and thereby hangs a story, possibly one of the most revealing in this war, of the close bonds between the International Brigade and the Spanish soldiers. It tells how Carl Bradley, Local 3844, International Longshoreman's Association, became Captain Bradley, of the Spanish Republican Army.

The People's Army, hardened by a year of warfare into seasoned, disciplined troops who can take on the toughest of Black Arrows and make them very homesick, had just captured more than 1400 square kilometers of territory in Aragon. Fighting in the van with

the Spaniards were the men of the Fifteenth Brigade — las Brigadas Internacionales—and they did sterling work at Belchite and Quinto, winning the high praise of General Pozas, commander of the division.

HOW IT WAS DONE

Nobody can tell the story of Belchite and Quinto better than Captain Bradley who won his stripes for his good work here. Let me tell the story almost as he told it. If anybody knows Belchite it is Captain Bradley whose men at Dead Man's Point built the barricades that did such damage to the fascists. Let him tell you of Quinto, that towering fortification into which the German engineers put a year's work building what they thought would be impregnable defenses.

"At Quinto" Bradley says "the fascists held a large building, biggest in town, commanding the entire position. Walls three feet thick; a regular fortress. The windows had machineguns poked through them, and it would be next to impossible to take Quinto if this place wasn't taken.



"On the afternoon of the day before the last trench position of the fascists was taken, our command asked for volunteers for a bombing squad to wipe out this nest. Ten men were needed and ten men immediately volunteered.

ARMED WITH GLYCERIN

Bradley commanded the group. "We went armed with glycerin bottles, took a position 25 feet from the wall of the building. We hid there and waited till after 25 shells, well directed, hit the place. The walls were so thick they did not demolish the building. The main purpose of the shelling was to force the fascists into their holes, away from the windows with their machineguns and snipers.

"Out of the ten, two were wounded as we snaked our way to the building. Three of the gang had to carry them back. That left five to carry on. We took our bottles, filled with this deadly explosive glycerin, picked windows, and threw them in with well-directed pitches that came from good baseball arms. Tremendous flames exploded inside the building. We came back twice with the bottles and then rolled a big drum of gasoline into the structure with a fuse attached to it. It exploded inside.

"This mission finished we returned to find out how our

other five men were. We wended our way back to where hundreds of our soldiers were standing on a hill, enthused. They had been watching us do this job on the fascist stronghold that had snuffed out the lives of so many of their comrades. The building burned all night.

Bradley then told how the fighting went at Belchite. Here the American boys carried on boldly but cleverly in street to street fighting, infiltrating the town and then going to work, taking house after house.

"We charged uphill some 350 meters under enemy machinegun fire. We could see the faces of the fascists. Three of our men were killed; seven wounded out of 29. The Americans had to put up their machinegun stand. The bullets flew so thick we had to take our ponchoes, fill them with sand, and under that bit of protection, set up the guns.

WHERE REGAN DIED

"We took a street to a point where Charlie Regan was killed. Charlie was one of the bravest men in Spain, a World-war vet and a fighting Irishman with pleasant blue Irish eyes but with a strong determination. Men looked on him as one who would go into the jaws of death for them and they loved him. He had such



GENERAL WALTER, Commander of the 35th Division. Above, at right, another photo of Gen. Walter, on the Aragon front.

a burning hatred of Fascism he'd strip himself of his skin if it would help. He was killed September 5.

"We called where he was killed Dead Man's Point. We had to go up the street and make a perfect cleaning of houses. Our men were hungry but they didn't pick up a piece of bread in the houses they cleaned up. We went this way: four men on the right hand side watching the left side for snipers and four on the left watching the right hand. Two more men looking at the rear. Thus we had perfect protection. Then we came to a point 75 feet from the fascists and could hear their officers, hollering Viva Franco.

MOVE BARRICADES AHEAD

"At Dead Man's Point where the bullets were ricocheting, we built a barricade of bags of grain taken from cellars of abandoned houses, and gave them hell from behind it with bombs and rifles. Then we decided to move the barricades forward, a few feet at a time.

No volunteers were needed or this, two stepped forward immediately. One of them was Ephraim Bartlett, of Denver, Col., a man with some Indian blood, a miner who had been a soldier in the United States Cavalry and who saw a lot of duty on the Mexican front, a man of 45. Back to the sides of the building, he took sack by sack from the barricade, holding them in front of him in direct fire of the enemy, he piled them in the new position. This way we brought the barricade forward under direct enemy fire.

"Then we began to advance through the buildings by digging holes in those thick Spanish walls and here the miners were very proficient. We got a commanding position from two houses on the right and began to harass the enemy by sniping.

700 PRISONERS

"Some of the men heard voices in the cellar of the building. We discovered there was about 150 Fascist soldiers and civilians downstairs. A Spanish

officer began to talk to them through the cellar window. He explained why they ought to surrender, told why we were fighting and they said they would surrender. We took 700 prisoners in three houses right by our barricade.

"About three o'clock in the morning, after a rigid guard all night, the stillness was suddenly exploded like a bolt of lightning. There was suddenly running around in the streets, noises, shots, the bursting of grenades.

"There was a great tension and you had a feeling that now here it comes. This is the payoff — the two bodies were going to collide right now.

LOUD-SPEAKER ARRIVES

"Everybody's nerves were strained. Suddenly you heard all over the city the playing of the Spanish national anthem. The loudspeaker had come up! It was just like pouring oil on troubled waters. Just as if by agreement of both sides, everybody stopped to listen.

"Then there was a short speech that had been prepared by Dave Doran, of the United States. It was translated into Spanish. A simple little speech it was, but its effect was deadly. He told the Fascists how futile their position was. He told them what the Republicans stood for. He told of Mussolini and Hitler and the invaders. Then the National Anthem sounded again.

"Two minutes elapsed. Silence. Then a few scattered shots. We afterward learned these were some fascist officers being killed by their own soldiers. Suddenly we heard the soldiers, the fascist soldiers comrades, bust into singing the Internationale! They started shouting Viva la República! Then we knew victory was ours. Then all their soldiers came over. They surrendered and Belchite, the Fascist stronghold that Napoleon couldn't take, was now in the hands of the International Brigadiers.

— AND SEVEN NUNS

"There was suddenly great jubilation. Not because we beat them, it wasn't only that, but

LOYAL GUERRILLA BANDS MENACE FRANCO'S REAR

VALENCIA.—Guerilla warfare in Franco's rear is assuming serious proportions, judging by reports reaching here at frequent intervals.

In the mountains of Huelva Province, in the South, in the northern Provinces of Galicia, many thousands of Republicans are harassing the Fascist garrisons.

HALF RETURNED

Three thousand guerilla fighters from Viana del Bolla, Orense, make life hectic for the Fascist headquarters at Vigo and Pontavedra. A company of Moors and Phalangists recently sent out to crush them was almost annihilated, barely half of them returning from the expedition into the mountains.

Another two thousand repu-

blicans are established in the mountains of Buama. Most of them are fugitives from Malaga, Rio Tinto and Seville. They are secure in the deep gulleys and craggy mountains, and recently successfully ambushed a force sent out to destroy them.

CAPTURED DYNAMITE

In La Ciana Prieta, in the suburbs of Ardales, and neighboring villages of Malaga Province, numerous bands of Spaniards, who escaped from Malaga, have been persistently attacking the insurgent garrison at Chorro del Agua.

Several times reinforcements have had to be drafted into the area to support the local fascist forces.

One report of an attack on Ardales tells how the raiders carried off 20 cases of dynamite, 410 rifles and many horses. Fifty Phalangists and Civil Guards were wounded in this fight.

AMERICANS BOO MUSSOLINI'S SON

NEW YORK.—When Victorio Mussolini, the son of Italy's dictator arrived here, he was greeted by thousands of people who shouted, "Mussolini is a murderer!", "Expel his son from the United States!" These demonstrations continued with greater enormity at the hotel where he stayed.



at the fraternity when they come over, happy, singing, throwing their arms around us.

Captain Bradley ended his story with this: "We come across seven nuns working in the Belchite fascist hospital, a lot of wounded all around. The fascist officers had escaped, leaving them to their fate. The nuns viewed us with awful suspicion, thinking torture was in store for them. That's what the fascists led them to believe. They looked like they were resigned to death. Then we came forward and gave them milk,

eggs, bread. The medical doctor asked them which were the most seriously wounded cases, as he wanted to give them immediate attention. The nurses gladly showed them. Their faces registered a smile for the first time, and as we helped the sick, the nuns kept saying, "Muy bien —, muy bien." That means "Very good, very good." We helped the nuns over the barricade and took them to safety."

That's the story of Belchite, Captain Bradley said.

THE FIFTH COLUMN

The discovery of a vast network of espionage and treason in Madrid has given us a sharp reminder of the work of the enemy in our rear. It is not enough to feel violent indignation against these criminals. It is necessary to consider how they can be fought and overcome. That their activities represent a real danger is shown by previous experiences, and particularly by the events at Santander...

"While we were trying to find a boat the 'Fifth Column', that is to say, the internal enemy, had already come out on the streets. The Fascists set fire to the petroleum supplies and began firing at the Government supply centres", says an English witness, Commander Pursey.

It was work of this kind which was being prepared by the organisation discovered in Madrid.

FASCIST PLANS FOILED

Before November 7th last year, when General Mola was asked by a group of foreign journalists which of the four columns marching on Madrid would take the city, he replied: "Madrid will be taken by the Fifth Column". In other words the Fascists in Madrid would hand over the city to the enemy. Mola made a mistake. The people took the hint, dealt his allies a hard blow, and disorganised the Fifth Column. But it continued to exist.

It is interesting to note the aims of this Madrid organisation which has recently been brought to light.

It was engaged in recruiting men to carry on the public services when (and if) the Fascists entered Madrid. It was collecting information and studying means of conveying it to the enemy: in one premises the authorities discovered a plan of Belchite, an account of our forces in that sector, a report of the present position of the El Campesino (46th) Division, and a note on the evacuation of the Guadalajara hospitals.

A section known as the White Phalangists was organised among the refugees in the various embassies, and particu-



larly in that of Chile, where it is believed that the General Staff of the whole organisation may be found, enjoying a scandalous "diplomatic" immunity. This section, regarded as superior to the others, was to play a leading part in the allocation of posts when the fascists took over the municipal services.

A military section with wide ramifications was entrusted with recruiting soldiers to act in conjunction with the rebel forces in the next fascist attack on Madrid. In particular, they had the task of siezing the main public buildings, the central post, telegraph, transport offices, etc.

A blacklist was being prepared for use in the hypothetical future.

GERMAN, ITALIAN POLICE

We must not forget that at the head of the Fifth Column are the Gestapo and the Italian police with their wide experience. The Gestapo had sent its tentacles through Spain considerably before July 18th, and in fighting the Fifth Column we are not fighting a hasty overnight improvisation.

The spy, the provocateur, the saboteur are the worst enemies of the Spanish People's Revolution. Only implacable and perservering effort, a watch-

fulness neither dulled by excessive confidence nor blinded by undue suspicion, can defeat them. The methods of fascism in Spain — the killing of prisoners, the bombing of open towns where the victims are women and children — these things are sufficiently well known. The methods of the Fifth Column are no more scrupulous or humane: assassination, blackmail, prostitution, the launching of malicious and defeatist rumors, profiteering, the hoarding of foodstuffs, etc., the securing of information by bribery or terror — all these methods are co-ordinated in their plan of campaign. They can adapt themselves to circumstances.

NO HELP FROM US!

Sometimes we ourselves unwittingly assist the enemy. It is all too tempting to come, like Moses from the mountain, to dazzle an astonished audience with brand new information. But the price the Republican cause pays for that momentary feeling of elation and self-importance may be a heavy



one, and neither in Spanish nor in English is it very hard to say: "I don't know."

The fascist agents are not stirring figures surrounded with a mysterious and romantic halo. They are not fit subjects for a sentimental humanitarianism. They would deny liberty, progress, the possibility of a fuller and better life to millions of people, and instead would substitute tyranny and grinding poverty. Such they are, and as such they should be judged.

These people do not work in a vacuum. A traitor who is completely isolated can generally do comparatively little harm. But discord and jealousy between anti-fascists and anti-fascist organisations are treason's best breeding ground. In such an atmosphere it is relatively easy to play one section against another, to take sides, to escape detection, or if detected to cry out against "political victimisation", to make the whole struggle against the Fifth Column much more difficult and obscure by fomenting strife between sincere antifascists.

The Spanish Republic's surest weapon against the Fifth Column is the complete unity of action of all our forces, unity in the People's Front and in support of the Government of the People's Front, unity with one aim: to work together at the fronts and in the rear for the victory over fascism and the triumph of the People's Revolution. All the anti-fascist forces need each other — they cannot light-heartedly dispense with the co-operation of this or that organisation. If their whole strength is directed to this aim, an improved situation in the rear will be reflected in greater and more decisive victories at the front. A store of energy will be released which is at present dormant or spent in all too embittered controversies, or in endeavoring to promote or safeguard the interests of this or that organisation. The work of the Fifth Column will become a hundred times more difficult, and the task of the Republican authorities in unmasking the spies and traitors and giving them their deserts will become a hundred times easier.

In our own Brigades every action, whether conscious or not, which tends to friction or misunderstanding between the Volunteers and the Spanish comrades, or between soldiers of different nationalities or different anti-fascist opinions, only helps Franco. Every action which tends towards a better understanding, a closer People's Front unity, is another nail in the fascist coffin.

A. M. E.

COMRADE BAEDEKER - A SPANISH FANTASY

The other morning as we left the Hotel Alfonso on the Gran Via (where you can get tolerably pale coffee) the fascist artillery undertook its customary trajectory of the city. The spectacle of a lone peasant frantically trying to quiet down his burro in the middle of this highly modern avenue fascinated us until a shell landed too close for poetic sentimentalising. We ducked into a bookstore which looked safe, for its windows were barricaded against shrapnel by stacks and stacks of Platos, Goethes, Hugos, in what, we suppose, was the Spanish edition of the Modern Library.

There was a musty coolness about the place, like a wine cellar, and so we settled down comfortably in a chair to spend a restful couple of hours. Wanting to find out why we had taken to capturing sheep, as well as fascists, on the Aragon front, we picked up a *Baedeker* in the hope that he would give us some clue to what in the social background of sheep impelled them to line up with the fascists. But he gave us no help on this point, and we already knew that sheep had an affinity for sheep-herders.

GOODBYE TO ALL THAT

Although we remained just as muttonheaded about the Aragon front as before, we found our 1920 edition of *Baedeker* a highly absorbing document. It portrayed a Spain and Madrid not even of the Republic (ante July 1936), but of the monarchy. A Madrid of resplendent cafés in which lounged elegant, smirking young men of aristocratic lineage, and apish business men on the make; a Madrid of repression and bureaucracy; a listless Madrid stultified by the feudal social relationships that still existed; a Madrid of museums filled with marvellous paintings that it had inherited from the past, but whose traditions the existing ruling classes were impotent to continue. It portrayed a lazy indolent Spain, and was silent about the oppressed but vital

IN WHICH THE OLD TOURIST PULLS A RIP VAN WINKLE IN MADRID, AND HITS THE HIGH SPOTS AT THE SAME TIME THE SHELLS DO

forces of the proletariat and peasantry whose rich spiritual strength would ultimately create a new and dynamic Spain.

We decided it would be fun to take Rip Van Winkle Baedeker out of his musty refuge on a tour of the tumultuous, indomitable Madrid of today. El Señor Baedeker has never quite gotten round to visiting Soviet Russia and we wanted to guarantee against a similar oversight of revolutionary Spain. Don't get a misimpression: we have a real affection for Karl Baedeker. Among tourist manuals his is the most thorough, accurate and concise, and if he inclines to see cities in static terms of museums, statues, churches and palaces, that is more the fault of his clientele, who like their history mummified.

AFTER THE SHELLING

So, when the shells began to come more slowly we went out. It was like when a heavy rain has let up for a moment and one can still hear the thunder in the distance. People were furtively darting out of doorways and making a run for their destinations. A few more hardy ones were inspecting the effects. When it appeared that the holocaust was over the streets soon were crowded again and people were in tumultuous and bolsterous movement. With Karl we walked down the Calle Montera. A shell had hit the top story of an apartment house and dislodged huge boulders into the street. Others still hung precariously on high. We made a wide detour, but on the second story a nonchalant Madrileña was dusting the debris off her balcony.

We descended into the Puerta del Sol. Karl was quite intimidated by the burly throngs of soldiers although he was somewhat reassured by the

stream of water that some street cleaners were laying down on the hot pavement. That was a thread of continui-



ty with the past. We noticed that he was attracting attention in his bourgeois garments of 1920, so we took him into a shop and bought him khaki pants and a khaki shirt. Outside we purchased a Sam Brown belt and enough stripes so that he would rank as a *commandante*, which, with his distinguished Van Dyck, would get us by even a *Garde d'Asalte*.

THE TOURS BEGINS

We asked our ancient friend where he would want to go first. He hesitated between the Prado, aristocratic avenue of mansions and museums, and a walk toward the western side of the city where were the Royal Palace, the Almudena Cathedral, etc. Since he had not seen the latter, we went there first. We went along the Calle Mayor which took us through the Plaza de la Constitucion or Plaza Mayor. Karl told us that this square dated back to the 16th century and that the equestrian statue of Philip III which was in the center dated back to 1613. The square had been a theatre of tourneys in

the days of decadent knighthood, of executions, of *auto-da-fes*, of horse races and bull-fights. Its balconies could hold 50,000. Now all the pavement had been torn up by shrapnel, but Philip still was untouched.

As we approached the Palace, a large green vista opened up before us. Karl's eyes lighted up: "We can go for a nice cool walk in the Casa del Campo", he said. At which point he was startled by staccato noise of a machine gun, excellently grouped. An excited Spanish guard waved to us. Where was our "Salvoconducto"? We pointed to Karl's stripes. Our guard looked dubious, but at that point our friend Baedeker had lost his heart for further advance. He could see, he said, even from the distance, that the Palace was unharmed save for fascist shells. He'd much rather see the Prado, he said. Nor could we persuade him to take a look at the Almudena Cathedral to see that as much as had been built was intact.

BAEDEKER BEWILDERED

As we returned toward the Puerta del Sol he asked us what were the icehouses and sea walls made out of paving stones that he noted in all the streets near the city's extremity. And we told him how women, children and men had abandoned everything last October to fortify their city, and make it, if the fascists should ever really penetrate into it, literally the tomb of fascism.

We went down the Calle de Alcalá. Our distinguished tourist insisted on stopping in all the old and famous cafés. He noted how, despite the turbulence of the war, the brasses were scrupulously polished, and the upholstery carefully treated by the ever-changing groups of soldiers that came in to quench their thirst. At Mollnero's we tried the peach ice cream (*helado*). Not badly made, he said, considering the lack of milk. At Negreco's we slipped a *Naranjada*, a sweet

(Continued on next page.)

LETTERS

from

HOME

From An "Epic" in California

My dear friend J: I surely appreciated seeing another letter from you in the Epic News this week, and I hope that your wound is not too serious. This morning I received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. M, which contained a letter from you which I am enclosing...

All true lovers of democracy throughout America are showing an intense interest in the duly elected democratic loyalist government of Spain. Everyone seems to realize that the fascist powers of Franco, Germany and Italy are a threat to real democracy throughout the world. The enclosed clipping from the Wilmington Daily Press tells of the next big meeting to be held in Los Angeles. The San Pedro and Wilmington Spanish-American club held a party last Saturday night in San Pedro to help raise funds for the Loyalist cause. I understand that about 300 were present. They plan another party September 12.

We had one meeting in Wilmington Bowl in which I think we raised close to 500 dollars. Our Wilmington Epic-Democratic club is tonight going to lay plans for getting together with union labor and other progressive organizations here in the harbor district to have the film "The Spanish Earth" shown here; and the proceeds will go toward providing medical care and food for the needy Loyalist people of Spain.

I realize that you cannot write many individual letters, but I hope you will write often to the Epic News because in that way thousands of people read your letters and learn just what is going on in Spain. With best wishes, your friend B.

Wilmington, Calif. August 26, 1937.

Another I. L. A. District Goes C. I. O.

Dear Z: We received your letter and were certainly glad to hear from you, as we heard a rumor around here that you had been killed. Well, your letter assured us that it was, after all, only a rumor...

The Local is still going strong... P. D. is working out of the hall again, and Ted is out organizing for the A.F. of L. and I'm still pounding the typewriter. That was a very interesting letter you sent us, so interesting in fact that the Publicity Committee put it on the front page of our bulletin, as you will notice when you read the one I enclose...

District 38 of the I.L.A. has gone C.I.O. with a big bang. We voted down here in favor of it too. So, now the name of the organization is: The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, no longer affiliated with J.P. Ryan or the I.L.A. Now it is the I.L.W.U. Hooray for Harry Bridges!

Your friend has been paying your dues, Z., so you need not worry about that. When do you think you'll be home again? Or do you intend to settle down there and marry that little good looking Spanish nurse you were telling us about (What do you think my heart is made of???)

Write real soon and tell us more news.

Best of luck.

M. T.

HOW GARCIA LORCA WENT TO HIS DEATH

(Continued from page 3.)

with blood, and gazed at them. Astounded the Civils climbed into their autos. Only Lt. Medina came closer. He struck the poet over the head with the butt of his pistol. This time Garcia Lorca collapsed to the ground enriched by his blood for the last time. Medina discharged three barrel-loads of bullets into the lifeless body.

"There the poet remained unburied—in front of his Granada."

COMRADER BAEDEKER

(Continued from page 7.)

drink made out of saccharine and syrup.

We sauntered down towards the Prado. Our by now "comrade" was amused to see the statue of Cybeles in the Plaza del Castelar encased in a brick covering to protect it against shrapnel. "La Linda Tapida", the Covered Beauty, the Madrileños have rechristened their dear goddess. Apollo and Neptune further down the Prado had similar encasements.

Nothing quite so endeared proletarian Madrid to our ancient friend, as the care with which the palms and shady oak trees and the green walks of the Prado had been kept up. With an effort, he even suffered the new name that the Avenue had been given, "Avenue of Proletarian Unity". And all the mansions and little palaces that had been taken over by various organizations he was easily reconciled to: "From what I have already seen, they will get better care and be placed to better uses now."

Finally we reached the Museum of the Prado, one of the most famous in the world. There we were told that all the valuable art treasures and as many as could be saved from the Duke of Alba's palace, which had been fired by fascist incendiary bombs, had been transferred to safety, chiefly in Valencia, where they were being catalogued. "I must go there", the old man said. "Can I get a train?" We told him he'd travel much faster in a camion, especially if it was driven by an American from the Auto Park.

We went up towards the beautiful "Retiro Park". It is bordered by what was the Calle de Alfonso XIII in 1920, the Calle de Alcalá Zamora in 1936, and today is Calle de Reforma Agraria. This tickled us almost as much as the Calle de Milicias Marxistas Unificadas, which ran into it.

In the shady "Retiro" we sat down on a bench. Everything here seemed like old times to Comrade Baedeker. An old man was sleepily reading his newspaper. A mother was crôchét-

ting. Her baby was playing in the dirt. Karl relaxed and stretched out his spindly legs. But then the 15.5's began to mutter in the distance. Karl looked at us as if to say, "Shouldn't we get back to our bookstore refuge?" But our bench neighbors put him to shame. "They sound far off", said the mother and returned to her knitting. "They are less dangerous when they hit the dirt, than when they hit the paving stones", said the old one from in his newspaper.

Comrade Baedeker could not help but love this gallant Madrid.

J. P. L.

SPANISH YOUTH MEETS

(Continued from page 1.)

1. The J. S. U. dedicates itself to strengthening the Alianza de la Juventud. (This is the national organization made up of different youth groups. The J. S. U., which is the unification between Socialist and Communist youth, is part of this larger body.)

2. Culture is no longer the privilege of the powerful few, but a social function open for all youth. He explained how 40 institutions of learning were closed down by the fascists; on the other hand hundreds of new schools have been opened by Republican Spain. The salaries in fascist territory have been brutally cut, whereas in loyalist Spain wages have increased.

3. Efforts must be made to raise the cultural level of the peasant youth, and also their working conditions. Land must be given to those peasant fighters who desire it.

4. To work for unity among all youth at all times, performing constructive work that tends to build harmony.

5. To wipe away all counter-revolutionary forces that try to split the youth, especially Trotskyites.

6. To intensify work in the centers of production, raising the cultural level of the youth in the factories.

7. Above all to organize the youth in one organization of combat against fascism, in order to win the war.

J. T.

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The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades ★

OCTOBER 14, 1936-1937 ★ ONE YEAR of the INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES



A YEAR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

"We make only one request—that we be sent to the posts of greatest danger."

These were the words of the leaders of the first battalion of International Volunteers, a full year ago. For many months, from the very beginning of the Franco rebellion, men of all lands who happened to be in Spain at the time had volunteered their services in the government ranks. British and German and French and Austrian and Italian—men of all nations, living in peace or in exile—came of their own free will to serve in the People's Army of Freedom. At first they served among their Spanish brothers, storming the Montana Barracks in Madrid, the well fortified arsenals in Barcelona, the strongholds in Valencia—all the centers of fascist power and concentration in all of Spain. But later, as the war progressed, as the fascists were held back by this wall of vulnerable but unconquerable flesh and spirit, other men came from other lands.

MODEL FOR FUTURE

Converging on Albacete, they formed, for the first time in history, the International Brigades—an army which may well, as one writer has put it, "form the model for the democratic armies of the future."

The concentration camps of Hitler were not strong enough to hold the German fighters who saw in the Spanish struggle a means of fighting back against the brown terror. No ocean was too wide, no frontier too difficult for these men—our comrades in battle.

MAKERS OF HISTORY

The stories of the early days of the defense of Madrid have been told and re-told a hundred times, and will be told again, many more hundreds of times. As long as men treasure their liberties as men, as long as justice and truth and courage and self-abnegation are virtues in the eyes of humankind—so long will the story of the International Brigades live in the history of man's achievements. But the time for the writing of history has not yet arrived. Perhaps it would be better to say that the final history of our activities in Spain must await the day when we have won the leisure and the

freedom that will enable us to reap the fruits of victory towards which our battles of today are leading. We can recall at this point the words of one of the



FEBRUARY COMMANDER

Robert H. Merriman, Chief of Staff of the 15th Brigade, who commanded the Lincoln Battalion in its February actions on the Jarama front.

greatest figures of our own century, who put down the pen before he had completed one of his greatest works with the following simple explanation:

"It is more... useful to go through the experience of the revolution than to write about it."

OUR OWN ANNIVERSARY

What of our own English-speaking comrades of the International Brigades? The British were here from the very start. A part of their story is told elsewhere in this issue. For us, of the United States, and our brothers from Canada, the journey was longer. One or two Americans came in the early weeks and months of the war, but our first large contingent of volunteers did not arrive until the first days of this year—two months after most of the European nations had begun to contribute their fighters to the cause of Spanish democracy and freedom.

As Americans, we will celebrate

our anniversary on January 5, 1938.

As members of the International Brigades, our anniversary is that of all our comrades—October 14, 1937.

HONOR TO OUR DEAD

In celebrating the first anniversary of the formation of the International Brigades, let us do honor to those comrades of all nations who have given their lives in our fight. Let us remember the deaths of Ben Lelder, American aviator, shot down by a fascist plane; Ralph Fox of England; General Lukacz of Hungary; Alfred Bruger of France; Doctor Heilbrunn of Germany; Guido Picelli of Italy; Hans Beimler of Germany; John Cornford of England; D. E. Seacord of the United States; John Scott of England, who had come here from America; Bill Henry and James McCrotty and Liam Tumilson of Ireland; Blagoje Parovitch of Yugoslavia; Rodolfo de Armas and Pablo de la Torriente-Brau of Cuba; Jack Shirai of Japan, who fought with the Lincoln Battalion; Alonso Watson, the first American Negro killed fighting for Spain.

There are other names to be remembered, and other events. The February days on the Jarama, when the first American battalion, composed of new and rapidly-trained recruits, went over the top under the hellish fire of the fascists, forcing the battle and thus halting the enemy's advance in the Jarama River Valley. Let us remember the days of February 23rd and 27th, of April 5th, and

the long, seemingly-endless days afterward when our comrades held the lines, living in trenches for a longer period than any army of modern times.

By our actions of today can we do greatest honor to the memories of John Lenthier, Charles Edwards, Paul Niepold, Rudolph Tieger, Joe Streisand, Carl Carlson; Julius Rosenthal, the oldest, and William Pick, the youngest member of the Lincoln Battalion—all of whom were killed in the February fighting.

By our actions of today can we pay greatest homage to our dead of the July offensive outside of Madrid; Oliver Law, Negro commander of the Lincoln Battalion; Max Krauthamer; Paddy O'Neill and Joe Armitage of Canada; John Muso and Charles Siebert of the United States, Mike Kelly of Ireland—all of the Lincoln Battalion.

And in the same offensive, we can recall the names of our dead from the second American battalion, the Washington Battalion, which received its baptism of fire in July: Harry Hynes, Sam Stone, Morris Wickman, Rubin Schechter, Ernest Arion, Malcolm Chisholm and a number of other comrades.

CREATING AN EPIC

And, in the early days of the Aragon offensive by the Peoples Army, the offensive which conquered Quinto and Belchite for us—Peter Daly, commander of the British Battalion; and Paul Block, Daniel Hutner, Sam Levenger, Sidney Shostek, all Americans...



I. B. ON PARADE: An early photo of the International Volunteers.

When the history of the liberation of Spain from fascism is finally written, these names and those of many others, from all countries, will be the pegs on which are hung the many actions, large and small, individual and collective, which combined in a great effort form the very heart of history. The deeds which they performed and which we continue to perform here, have already become the great epic of our times an epic which we ourselves will read and contemplate when the tough fight is over.

FASCISM WEAKENING

And that this fight is drawing closer and closer to victory is evident from everything that is happening, not only in Spain, but in the entire world today. Everywhere fascism is discovering that its cold-blooded murders and aggressions are being resisted. Japan expected an overnight victory in China—but the Chinese masses, united, have fought the Japanese legions to a standstill; and now Japan fears for the future, because it counted on a rapid victory, the only kind of victory possible. Now the Japanese warlords find their supplies dwindling, their rear-guard wavering, their economy staggering under the cost of the extended war.

Italy and Germany too are finding that have bitten off more than they can chew. Not only do internal difficulties increase tenfold each week in these fascist countries, but popular sentiment, long smoldering, has begun at last to burst into the flame of open opposition. The new and harassing activities of Ethiopia's armies will make it double difficult for Italy to continue its past stream of aid to the traitor Franco. And Germany's tottering economy attacks its rear in the same manner as Italy's defeated but unconquered North Africans.

Most hopeful of all, the international scene seems finally to be operating in favor of the legally constituted government of Spain. France fears to face the possibility of another enemy frontier to the south; and both France and England have stretched their patience to the pirates who have sunk their merchant vessels on the Mediterranean. Popular mass opinion in both France and England grow stronger and stronger, and must soon force the hand of even the most wa-



THEIR LAST CUP of coffee before battle. Part of the very first group of international volunteers, just before they left for the front outside Madrid last autumn.

vering and double-dealing diplomat to come out openly for the only side which possesses justice—the legal Popular Front government of Spain.

When we view all of these developments, when we hear of President Roosevelt's attack on the "gangster, aggressor nations", when we hear of the support we are gaining at home, we can not but become realistically optimistic.

And when we couple all of these events with the growth and emergence of Spain's Popular Army, which soon will number one million well-trained and well-ar-

med men, we have further cause for rejoicing.

And when, in addition, we see the efforts toward unity within our own land—Spain—bearing always greater fruit—then we can be sure that the first year of the International Brigades in Spain has been well spent. For it was our example which prompted many of the lagging elements to speed, to efficiency, to courage and to victory.

The first anniversary occurs at a time when, for three months, we have taken over the offensive in the war against fascism. The main

fronts have been the scenes of victory after victory for us. Each day that we hold out—let alone advance, which we have been doing—makes victory more certain.

It is in this spirit that we welcome our anniversary—with pride in our role, with gratitude for our opportunity to take such a part in the history of our times, and with solidarity toward the Spanish people, whose fight is the fight of all who hold freedom precious, and whose final victory will be a victory not only for Spain, but for all mankind.

E. H.

NO PASARAN!

TO «PASIONARIA»

What fascist has been so idiotic as to have sheltered the obscene hope of entering Madrid, tranquilly, blazing his egoism on the march?

The traitor Mola? Franco, the assassin? Cabanellas, the filthy fool? Or was it by chance the drunken impenitent in Seville who drowns his fears in wines?

Let the traitors lose their hopes of ever treading the Madrileños with their hoofs! Impossible fruit of their illusions. Let the workers be alert forming a thick forest of rifles, and a valley of tenacious hearts.

FELIX V. RAMON

Dr. Negrin Visits Wounded Men of the I. B.

VALENCIA, Oct. 6.—A visit by Dr. Juan Negrin to the wounded comrades in the International Brigade hospital yesterday was greeted with heartfelt enthusiasm. He first went through the wards where the most serious cases were confined, talking with men of all nationalities. After giving the wounded a short talk, he was interviewed by our English comrade, Wintringham, author of the book "The Next War", and by Comrade Gustave Regier, the German writer who was seriously wounded several months ago. Wintringham was wounded on the Aragon front.

ENRIQUE LISTER - AN EMIGRANT COMES HOME



ENRIQUE LISTER

A División Commander of the 5th Army Corps of the Peoples Army.

When the Civil War in Spain broke out, only four regiments of the regular army remained loyal to the government. All the rest of the troops went over to the side of the Fascist rebels. The result was that the Spanish people had to create their own army, and develop their own military leaders. From squads of workers, many of them without guns, who went out from Madrid in taxicabs to stave off the enemy advance, from such non-military elements, in fourteen months the government has built up a well-organized and disciplined People's Army. And from the people themselves have come leaders to guide and direct this army. And few of them were military men a year and a half ago. Duran, for example, was a musician writing ballet-scores for the dancer, Argentiña. Modesto was a carpenter. El Campesino worked among the peasants. And Enrique Lister, of whom I write, used to be a grocery boy and a stone-cutter in Cuba.

THE POT OF GOLD

No, Lister is not a Cuban, but he is one of the thousands of Spaniards who emigrated to the Americas looking for a pot of gold at the foot of a foreign rainbow. Like thousands of these thousands, Lister did not find gold. In Cuba he found only hard work, low pay, and dreams that didn't come true. Like the Spanish immigrants in New York, or in the steel mills of Gary and Youngstown, Lister

discovered in Havana that the main use which America has for foreigners is to make of them a reserve of cheap labor to do the hardest and dirtiest work for the lowest pay. So, very early in life, Lister learned the difference between those who have nothing and must work for a living, and those who have money and property and can afford to hire others.

Lister went to Cuba as a child of twelve with his father and his brothers. He was put to work as grocery boy in Havana store. He worked fourteen hours a day, wrapping packages, cleaning up, delivering orders. He did not know how to read and write. When he was fifteen years old he decided to learn. He went to night classes at the Galician Center. For two hours every night, after his long day's work, he studied spelling and grammar, and struggled to form letters in a copy book.

LEARNS FATHER'S TRADE

Being a strong boy, he decided to take up the trade of his father and become a stone-cutter. There was a great deal of building going on in Havana in the 1920's. Lister worked on various constructions then underway. But the stone-cutters had no union. They needed one, so Lister took part in the issuing of the first call to form a stone-cutter's union in Cuba, and he became one of its members. This was in 1925 when he was eighteen years old. The following year, already experienced in union organization, he went back to Spain, to his native Galicia. Here he was immediately arrested as a dangerous character with advanced ideas. For the next three or four years, he was continually in and out of prison and always in great disfavor with the officers of the Spanish monarchy, who had no desire to see Spanish workers organized into effective unions.

BACK TO SPAIN

When the Republic was declared in 1931, and Lister was released from a thirteen month's prison term, he was elected President of one of the most important unions of Coruna. Shortly after he took office, there was a strike in which fighting broke out and, in the struggle, a reactionary em-

ployer was killed. As President of the union, Lister was again arrested, and sentenced to thirty years in prison. He escaped and went abroad. But he could not keep out of the struggle and ferment for democracy that was then sweeping through all Spain, so he returned to live illegally from town to town in his own country. When the People's Front came to power in February, 1936, he was in Madrid. And when in July the generals and big industrialists rose up against this people's government and ordered their soldiers to fire from the Montana Barracks on the citizens of Madrid, Lister was in the crowd that stormed those barracks and took them over for the government. A few days later he was in the Guadarrama Mountains fighting against the Fascist foes. But not only fighting. Lister realized at once Spain's need for disciplined forces, and he began immediately to help organize what was to become the new army of the republic.

ROSE IN THE RANKS

From untrained men to disciplined soldiers. From workers, many of whom never handled a gun before, to the army which now efficiently defends all loyalist Spain. That is an achievement in which Lister has played a great part. He himself rose rapidly in the ranks of this army. In the early days of the war, he was made lieutenant. And with the formation of the now famous Fifth Regiment (really the first regiment of the new loyalist army) Lister was raised to captain and given two companies of shock troops to direct. In his first skirmish with the enemy, he took seven prisoners and two machine guns. Shortly thereafter, he was made a Commander. And in the early autumn of last year, the Fifth Regiment chose him as Commander-in-Chief. Then the government ordered him to organize the first brigade of the People's Army, a job which meant making soldiers of men with no previous experience in warfare. The glorious history of this brigade and the way it took part in the defence of Madrid during the dark days of November, 1936, is now one of the flaming epics of the Spanish Republic. The Fascists did not pass! Madrid held its own.

Now its citizens feel that their city will never be taken.

LISTER'S RECORD

During the last year, Lister and his men have passed over half the war-map of Spain: Jarama, Guadalajara, Garabitas, Toledo, Valdemoros, Brunete, Aragon. And Lister's name itself has become a symbol of bravery and leadership in Spain.

When I interviewed him, he was in Valencia on his way from one front to another. He is a young man, only thirty. Heavy set. Strong determined face. A quick mind. A great memory for dates and places. It was after ten o'clock at night when Lister and his aides came into the building where I had been waiting to interview him.

"Too late", I thought. "I'll merely make an appointment for another time."

But when I asked him when I might have an interview, Lister's reply was, "Now!"

4 BROTHERS KILLED

No hesitation, no postponement. And as he talked, there was no boasting, no pompousness. Quite simply, he told me the story of his life, and of the dramatic incidents of the war months. He spoke of four brothers killed by the Fascists in the North, and of the bewilderment of his father at a world in which sons grew up only to be killed.

"We must end this war quickly," Lister said. "I do not doubt that



LA "PASIONARIA",
addressing the soldiers.

the victory is ours. We have a million men in reserve. The enemy lacks men. But what we must do now is organize all our forces, military and industrial, so as to end this war soon."

WHAT LISTER LEARNED

He spoke like a man who does not relish warfare and killing, but who is a lover of work and life. Someday, he says he would like to go back to Cuba. He remembers that it was there that he learned to read and write, having been denied schooling as a child in Spain. But he remembers, too, that in Cuba he worked fourteen hours a day -- and his employers were Spaniards like himself, not Cubans. What he learned from that is that one's own people will exploit you just as much as foreigners will -- that it's not racial differences that count, but class differences! So in Cuba, Lister joined his first union, and took his first steps toward the defense of the rights of the common working people. Today, in Spain, he is one of the great commanders of the People's Army. Enrique Lister -- the immigrant boy who came home bringing not a pot of gold from the foot of a foreign rainbow, but instead a mind and a heart full of the strength which people pour into the channels of unionization and into organized action for the creation of a democracy where Fascism cannot exist. Lister is helping Spain maintain and strengthen such a democracy. L. H.



ETHIOPIA, STILL UNCONQUERED, CHALLENGES MUSSOLINI'S RULE

JIBUTI. -- That uprisings and organized fighting, in addition to guerilla warfare are going on between the Abyssinians and the Italians, is now confirmed, in spite of the fascists' special measures to prevent the news from leaking out. The last few weeks have witnessed a greater degree of unrest among the Ethiopian people, who are making it impossible for the Italians to remain there without fighting every inch of the way.

Fighting rages on the north, east, and south, around Addis Ababa. A regular fighting army is being organized by the Ethiopians, in which already there are thousands of volunteer soldiers under the command of Kanyazmash Abeba Arragai Bobana. This young army, formed under the one banner of unity, scored an important victory recently when it met the Italian troops and wiped them out, in the province of Morat. This was effected by a neatly executed strategy at a moment when the Italians advanced with an army of 5,000 men. Kanyazmash permitted the

Italians to advance rapidly, while he ordered his men to retire in such a way that a circle was formed around the advancing Italians. Then the poorly clothed and badly armed Ethiopians attacked and completely routed the Italians who lost practically all of their men.

ITALIANS JITTERY

In Addis Ababa, the capital, severe measures have been taken by the Italian-controlled government. Everybody is obliged to shut his doors at 6 p. m. No one is permitted to leave his house after that hour. High barricades have been constructed at the city limits to stop the Ethiopians who want to take back their capital.

In some places the natives are meeting the brutality of Italian fascism with passive resistance. Especially is this the case among the Mahometanas tribes that form 90 percent of an Ethiopian province. These tribes are forced to take their livestock, sheep, cows, goats, and their grains, vegeta-

bles, etc. to an Italian agency that pays them a low price. Then these very same people are compelled to buy back a portion of their products, but at a higher rate than they received for them. This, they say, they cannot understand.

NATIVE WOMEN RAPED

The Abyssinians have protested to the Italian Governor, that before the Italians invaded their land, their women were never dishonored by any man, even in the absence of their husbands. Now the women are being mistreated, they claim, and ferociously attacked by the Italian soldiers, regardless of whether their husbands are present or not. And husbands who have dared to protect their wives have been slaughtered like dogs.

While the Ethiopian people are fighting for their national independence, as are the Spaniards, European diplomats are planning to recognize Mussolini's right of sovereignty over these people.



HAILE SELASSIE

Emperor of Ethiopia, who is directing his peoples' fight against Mussolini

NEW TASKS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

The development of the People's Army and of the International Brigades confronts us with some new problems in our military and political work.

Since in their large majority our Brigades are now composed not of volunteers but of conscripts, there are some who doubt whether they can still be used as real shock Brigades.

This is a big mistake.

In these new drafts which are now joining the Army, we have the Spanish people, in all its aspects, taking up arms. We have the whole people rising to defend its liberty, its independence, its future.

Each day the facts show that this people is capable of heroism in every shape and form.

In the last offensive event, proved that the new conscripts are capable of the highest deeds, like their comrades, the volunteers who preceded the People's Army.

ARAGON VICTORIES

The new recruits, together with the experienced soldiers from the trenches of Madrid, carried out skilful manoeuvres and conquered Quinto and Belchite.

In Aragon, together with the International Volunteers, these absolutely new recruits stormed forts which were very strongly defended by blockhouses of reinforced concrete.

All these facts show that the new conscripts can be made into splendid soldiers.

With them we can not only maintain our shock Brigades, we can strengthen them still further. These new men can be given enthusiasm and fighting spirit of the volunteers of the early days.

This depends only on us, the experienced fighters, the military and political leaders, who have gained such valuable experience during this year of warfare.

The tasks which face us now are a little more complex. In some aspects they are a little more difficult. But we can and must solve them.

When we were dealing only with volunteers already selected for their long record as revolutionary fighters, the task of the military and political command was fairly simple. Moreover, the character of the war during the early months of our first Brigades was



LUIGI GALLO
Inspector General of the International Brigades.

simple; it was a question of resisting, of staying at one's post, of not throwing down one's arms.

The revolutionary consciousness, the spirit of sacrifice of our volunteers, was more than sufficient to make them acquit themselves gloriously in the defence of Madrid, in the struggle in all sectors.

NOW ON OFFENSIVE

But now we are counterattacking; we are taking the offensive; we are advancing; we are manoeuvring; we must carry into battle and on to victory great masses of men who are still insufficiently trained.

It is true that war, and, above all, this war in Spain, which is so fundamentally a war of the people, being a struggle against barbarism and foreign invasion, rapidly draws into political life millions and millions of new men whose political sense is forged in battle. It is the task of all the experienced fighters in our Brigades to make these men brave

and conscious soldiers of the Republic.

We are not only faced with a problem of political propaganda and enlightenment. We have also a problem of organisation and military training.

The more complicated tasks which confront our Brigades in the present stage of the war demand a high level of military training from our troops. The section, Company and Battalion should be able to manoeuvre during the day and at night, with or without cover; they should be able to take full advantage of the possibilities offered by the ground, of all the elements in the situation; they should know how to conquer positions, how to take fortresses regarded as impregnable. For the soldiers of the Republic no positions should be impregnable.

The time has gone by when we could be satisfied if our men had a thorough understanding of the rifles and machine guns entrusted to them. Now they must advance

and manoeuvre. Their military knowledge must be at a higher level. They must be able to take hundreds and thousands of men through difficult operations. They must be able to direct these men under the most difficult conditions.

To do all that we need a training and a discipline much higher than before.

There are those who believe that during rest periods it is aggravating and idiotic to carry out military exercises.

They too make a big mistake.

In the daring and complicated manoeuvres with which we are concerned now, success is impossible without the greatest discipline and the perfect execution of movements according to plan.

Discipline and training are not things invented to make the soldiers' lives miserable. They are the prime necessities of an army.

We ourselves, the soldiers, should demand these things, so that we can make our units into invincible units which will assure us of success and victory with the minimum sacrifice.

ABILITY TO LEAD

Every individual soldier, too, should increase his military abilities on his own initiative. Each officer, each commissar, conscious of the new and greater demands made by the war, should profit by the experience of the war to increase by practice and study his ability to lead.

It is only WITH A CLOSE UNITY BETWEEN SOLDIERS AND LEADERS, between experienced soldiers and new recruits, between volunteers and conscripts that we shall be able to put our Brigades, our Army in a position to solve brilliantly and rapidly the great tasks which lie before them, to win a speedy victory over fascism.

As always, the Volunteers of the International Brigades, should be entirely at the disposal of the commanders of the Regular Spanish Army to carry out these tasks.

As always it should be our ambition to be able to rank among the best fighters in Spain in the fulfilment of the tasks assigned us.

LUIGI GALLO
Inspector General
of the International Brigades.

BRITONS AND THE ANNIVERSARY

Anniversaries are the milestones along the road of History, they are the points which bring sharply to our memories the distance that we have travelled, and, though we may not stop, we can and do reflect on all the experiences we have had, and we can mend our pace according to the distance we have yet to travel. The first anniversary of the first International Brigade will be a day of rejoicing but not of rest, we have not yet reached our goal, we must learn from this year-long experience to hasten to its attainment.

It is perhaps with a little justifiable pride that we British comrades can reflect upon the assistance which our countrymen gave towards the formation of the first Brigade. Who can ever forget the almost legendary figures who came from our Isles, who fought and died beside their Spanish brothers in the first flush of the revolt? Who among us who had not yet seen the necessity for our assistance here itself, can forget the reports and dispatches of Frank Pitcairn, the first British journalist to make and keep us aware of the heroic struggles and the dire need of assistance of the Spanish people? Even yet, on reflection, one can almost feel the cold wind from the Gaudarramas when he described our comrades freezing there, one can sense their first bitterness at the monstrous character of the revolt, one can recall our own first feeling of pride at the description of their selflessness and heroism.



RALPH FOX
British writer killed in Spain.

Fortunately for the honour of our country (when so much has been done by traitors and statesmen to dishonour it) the first days of the outbreak found British comrades actually in Spain. Their actions and their deaths do not wipe out the gross treachery of our Edens, the callousness—to use no harder word—of our Citrines and our Bevins, but they were the highest expression of the solidarity of the British democrats with their Spanish brothers. We shall remember them.

Then came the steady flow from all the corners of the world to form the first international column. Here too, the presence of British comrades showed that the British workers and intellectuals had quickly grasped the seriousness of the situation. That was the explanation for the groups of workers and students who made

their way to Spain from our shores, even before the time when there were sufficient internationals to form a brigade. In those days one talked of groups, contingents, and the Column.

HONOR ROLL

Who were those comrades whose bodies were the first barricades to stem the fascist advance? Arnold Jeans, the mature working-class fighter who died as he had lived; Martin Messer, the young, sincere railway clerk who tried to prove to himself that he was worthy of the cause—and did so; James Kermode, communist organizer from Milngavie; and Jimmy Hyndman the Glasgow youth who would not be denied: these were among the first who died. There



JOHN CORNFORD
English student leader, killed on his 21st birthday.

were others too. John Cornford, the brilliant student whose death in December shocked working class and university circles alike, had fought since the September days; and Tommy Flynn who died as late as April of this year had fought continuously since November with the German comrades who had pleaded with him to stay with them even after the formation of the British Battalion.

OUR MACHINE GUNNERS

At that period the words British and Machine-gunner were synonymous. The British comrade who turned up among a group of Internationals was always handed the machine gun. The first British comrades in Spain had made such a reputation as machine

gunners that all who came after them from the same country were just naturally regarded as being of the same capabilities. Nor can it be said that this reputation was ever impaired.

It is a year and over since Mackenzie and Sommerfield, Gillan and Cunningham, Cohen and Lesser came as the vanguard of the British democrats to Spain. Afterward we increased our numbers and increased our efforts. The tens became hundreds, the hundreds became thousands. We made and maintained a Battalion: we have made and maintained a second to be proud of.

British comrades preceded and helped to form the first International Brigade. British comrades have fought continuously ever since. That is our record and that is the example we have to continue. We have been here from the first, we shall be here to the last. This should be our slogan: "From the bitter first to the glorious end!"

A. J.

CORRECTION

A picture which appeared on page one of the September 20th issue of *The Volunteer for Liberty* (No. 15), showing a group of men with levelled rifles leading other, white-shirted figures down a road, was miscaptioned. The printed caption, it has been called to our attention, should have read as follows:

"Fascist's leading non-combatant prisoners to their execution."



ANDRE MALRAUX
who headed the famous Malraux Squadron.



MACHINE GUN COMPANY in one of the first international battalions.

The World Situation -

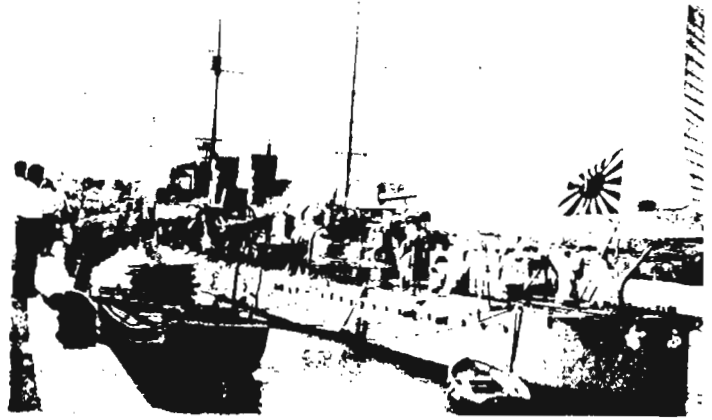
Unevenly, with interruptions but yet month by month, the tension of the world situation grows. The forces of peace, gathering their strength under the fascist threat of world war, race neck and neck with the forces of aggression.

To the members of the International Brigades, aiding the Spanish people in their struggle for independence, the outcome of the competition between the forces of peace and war is of supreme importance, for, as our presence in Spain indicates, the struggle here is closely bound up

recorded in these columns, the fascist powers grow desperate and resort to piracy in the Mediterranean, a piracy directed not only against the ships of the Spanish Republic, but against those of other powers too.

The Nyon conference, thanks to the determined and courageous stand of the representative of the Soviet Union, took the first halting steps towards the revival of collective security in Europe, albeit against the wishes of some of those present at the conference. It is certain that the fascists will not take this blow without attempting to extend their aggressions in other directions. Already it is reported that Mussolini has "loaned" twelve submarines to Franco, complete with crews and officers, and has the intention of sending another army of 150,000 equipped Italian soldiers to Spain, the number named by Franco as being the very fewest with which he can hope to win the war. Great Britain and France, disturbed by the possibility of an Italy entrenched on this side of the Pyrenees, have again revived the question of the withdrawal of volunteers in Spain, this time demanding a reply from the fascists within fifteen days, failing which the French frontier is to be opened and the right to buy arms restored to the Spanish Government.

Another Popular Front Government is being pursued by the over-



ONE OF JAPAN'S ships of war, now engaged in brutally shelling the crowded workers' sections of China's seaboard cities.

solicitous attentions of international fascism. Recently two bombs exploded in the headquarters of the Federation of Employers at the Metallurgical Industry in Paris. Two houses collapsed and two policemen were killed. Bombs exploded in the Bordeaux-Ventimille express; at the aerodromes of Villeneuve and Toussus; an Italian, Cancelli, was discovered attempting to blow up the Cerbère tunnel; scores of bombs having been discovered in various places; and all the bombs are of the same origin; they are loaded with tolite, a German explosive, and

with hexogene, an Italian explosive licensed for manufacture in Germany. Mysterious gangs are operating on the Franco-Spanish frontier, and have organised there a complete system of aid to the Spanish fascists, not hesitating to bring down passenger planes of the Franco-Spanish air lines by rebel German or Italian warplanes and pilots. Fascist agents attempt to capture the Spanish Government submarine C2 in the harbour at Brest.

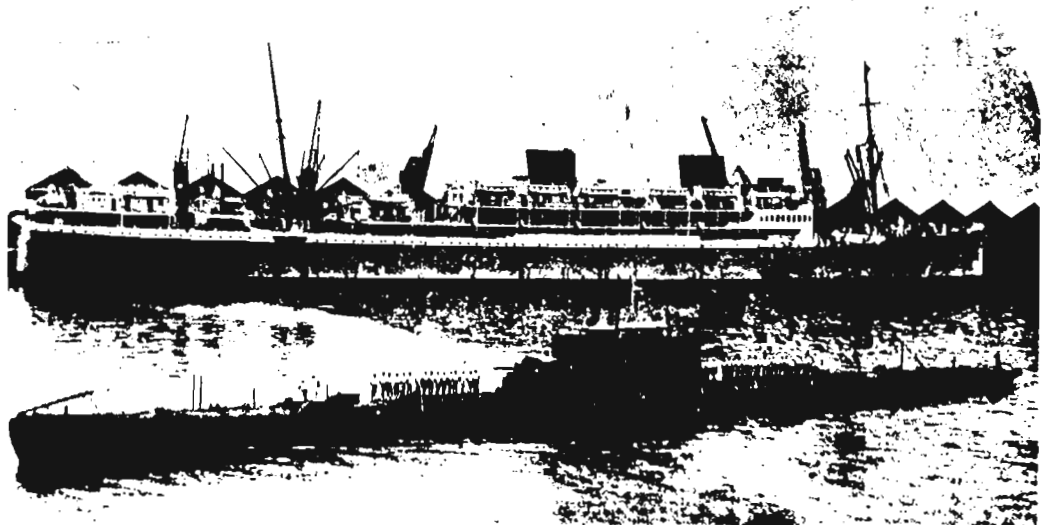
A gang of Italian sailors attempt a punitive expedition, end-



MEDITERRANEAN PIRATE Mussolini, dressed in one of the hundreds of uniforms so much in demand by him and his psychopathic German relative, Goering.

with circumstances in the world outside. An examination of the position of various centres will enable us to draw some conclusions.

Here in Spain, the popular forces are continually improving their position. The army, if it has not already reached that number, is very near a million strong, and although there are still insufficient arms to meet all our needs, the arms industry is growing rapidly both in the number of factories being devoted to arms production and in the quantities produced by each factory. Already a number of successful offensives have taken place. At Brunete, Belchite, Upper Aragon, Don Benito, Pozoblanco, this growing strength of the armed forces of the People is reflected. In face of these successes, as already re-



ONE OF THE UNKNOWN submarines, now taking its toll of lives and merchant ships in the Mediterranean. This one, however, is known to be Italian. When the others are exposed, they too will be traced to the blackshirt war navy.

- is it Peace or War?



PRIME MOVER for peace and justice for Spain and the entire world. An early photograph of Maxim Litvinoff, Soviet Russia's representative at the League of Nations.

ing in murder at Tunis. And many other incidents of a like nature show the hand of fascism. This terrorism has very definite objects. Fascism wants to create unrest, a feeling of insecurity, a desire for "a strong government" in the fascist sense; to split the country and throw suspicion on the Left; to provoke reprisals which would create an atmosphere of civil war. It hopes to weaken the French people and force it to accept fascist domination.



FASHION-PLATE Anthony Eden, whose nation's policy is more than any other's responsible for the continuation of unpunished aggression by the pirate, fascist states.

either because its government yields through fear or, as a last resort, by means of foreign intervention as in Spain. These attacks differ only in degree from the attacks made on the franc by the City of London. Whatever the means, the end is the same. But the French people are aware that their standards of life, their liberty and peace will only be defended by a Peoples Government. They will not forget the introduction of the forty-hour week, paid holidays, and the support given them in their struggles for a higher standard of living a year ago. The lessons of the defeat of the German and Italian people will not be lost upon them.

NUREMBURG RANTINGS

The annual tom-tom meeting at Nuremburg has come and gone. And the rantings of the "Führer" against Bolshevism and the parliamentary countries "on the verge of Bolshevism" still prove themselves inadequate substitutes for the food the German people lack. A detailed study of living conditions in Germany shows a steady decline in standards. The "Manchester Guardian" reports that "Owing to the shortage of grain, coffee substitutes are no longer being made of malt. New coffee substitutes containing a substitute for malt are being recommended for use". So the fascist regime goes from triumph to triumph. From "butter from coal" it proceeds to substitute substitutes. No doubt the time will soon arrive when we will be faced with yet another accomplishment substitute substitute substitutes, and even this does not exhaust all the possibilities.

RATIONING OF FAT

Another report from the same paper of March 12th says "The rationing of fat, introduced this winter is to be extended into the summer months. An official announcement issued today says that shopkeepers must continue, as at present, to keep lists of registered customers who have ration cards for the three months April to June. Hitherto the allowance had been half a pound a week".

The "Economist" says that prices have risen as follows: beef, 18 %, pork 11 %, veal 40 %, mutton 41 %, eggs 31 %, milk 7 %, butter 35 %, margarine 44 %, potatoes 22 %, peas 52 %, beans 32 %. The price of clothing rose 24 %, of footwear 17 %, of linen 8 %, and of furniture 6 %.

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SPANISH INTERVENTION

In order to prevent any worker from obtaining higher wages, in the only way left to him now that he has been robbed of his trade unions, he is forbidden to leave his place of employment to take a higher paid position, and indeed, may not change his position at all without the express permission of the Nazi authorities.

The hatred of the German people for the Nazi regime is intensified by fascist intervention in Spain. They fail to see any reason why German soldiers should sacrifice their lives, why many millions of marks should be thrown away, while they themselves are still hungry, to fasten on the Spanish people a regime similar to that they hate.

ITALY ON THE SPOT

The situation in Italy, with its own particular differences is similar to that in Germany, with the added difficulties of the revival of resistance in Ethiopia. A native army operating under the command of Kanyazmash Aleba Gobana, attacked Italian outposts, and then retired to its mountain fastnesses. An Italian army of five thousand men was sent out against them.

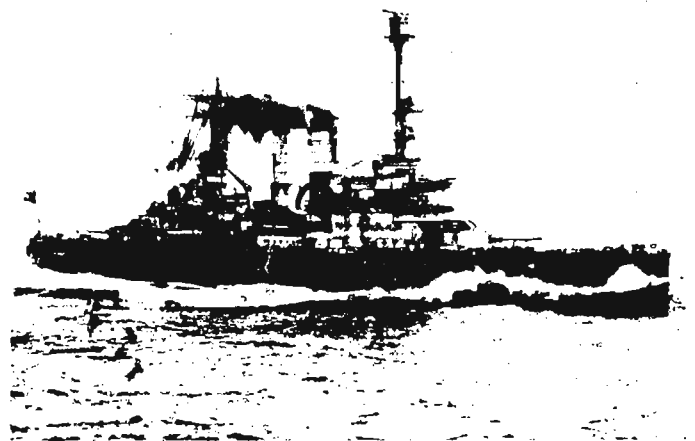
inst them. The Abyssinian troops cleverly allowed this army to advance until it was isolated from its base, and then fell upon it. Only fifty men escaped. On August 16th a force of four thousand Abyssinians attacked the railway station at Mojo at night, causing big casualties among the Italian force in occupation there, and then retired back to the hills. Apart from these organised attacks, in the north, in the west.



ADOLF HITLER, whose anti-communism has a mineral and geological basis.

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(Continued on page 15.)



GERMAN WARSHIP: It was a ship like this which carried out the unprecedentedly brutal bombardment of Almeria.

LETTERS from HOME

B. M. T. Workers Solid Behind Transport Union.

Dear S: Last night I witnessed one of the most exciting and stirring demonstrations of unity and faith in my whole... life. I've written you of the tough battle we've been having with the B. M. T. Corp., how only after threat of strike did they consent to a collective bargaining election, which we won. We have been negotiating for six weeks since the election, with continued stalling on the part of the company, and finally a flat No to our demands for increased wages, etc., they using the cry of poverty -- that if they granted the increased wages they would be insolvent in a year.

It is well known, beyond any doubt, that the B. M. T. is the richest of the transit companies, that its net profits for 1936 and 1937 have been more than ten million dollars. They pay the lowest wages in the city, and are notoriously anti-union.

Well, last night a meeting of the day-shift employees was called in Arcadia Hall, Brooklyn. Over 6,000 men and women (the B. M. T. employs 11,000) jammed the place -- people who for years have been members of the B. M. T. company union, and who at first were slow to join the Transport Workers Union. Now they are almost all solidly in the union. The cheering and ovations for the union leaders, Quill, Santo, Hogan, MacMahon (in charge of the B. M. T. organization), Counsel Sacher, were real and heartfelt. The workers were informed clearly and plainly that they would face the brutality and reaction of Wall Street in this action -- that the fight would be hard -- but when the resolution authorizing the executive board to call a strike if necessary was put to a vote, there was not one dissenting hand, not one. The men rose from their seats in a wave and the arms went up. They left the hall ready to walk out on five minutes' notice, and they left militantly, with the utmost faith in the union, certain of victory...

... We have been receiving occasional copies of "The Volunteer"

they are much in demand, but pretty scarce around here...

M. W.

About Big Doings In the Middle West.

Dear I, M. W., S and R and all my Chicago comrades: Received

THE SWORD AND THE PEN

Don Quixote, the famous,
Utters his meaningful words:

The 15th International Brigade,
Present!
With fists high, Spain's
Students salute you.
Sword and pen unite
In one fervent embrace;
Embrace from those who
Profoundly feel the mission.
The noble destiny,
The incomparable greatness,
The stern, solemn honor
Of having in our land
The culture of the West.

Don Quixote, the famous,
Utters his meaningful words:

Institute of Lagasca
Of Madrid, toward the Northeast:
Intensive course, vibrant
Notes, practical, laws.
The professor of Latin,
Softly, suavely:
Have to get up early, boys!
At eight, which means seven.
The Institute presents
A brilliant flag
To the brave men of
The 15th International Brigade
Who defend our cause.

Don Quixote, the famous,
Speaks his meaningful words:

Flag, the splendor of your silk
Will continue to live:
What leafy movement in you,
Rapid, noble, fierce!
International hands
Will hold bright your honor forever!
What wealth can buy,
What blood can heat you?
Fifteenth Brigade, salud!
Accept this gift
Which to invincible arms
Renders fervent pen

Don Quixote, the famous,
Ends his meaningful words.

A. MONTORO

Translated and Reprinted from
"La Libertad".

SPANISH CORTES CONVENES

After more than a year's adjournment, the Spanish Republican Cortes (parliament) reopened in Valencia on October 1, with expressions of magnificent enthusiasm from thousands of observers. Military parades of sea, land and air forces, plus many other demonstrations, greeted government officials on the reopening of the Cortes.

The President of the body, Comrade Diego Martinez Barrio, opened the session by paying homage republican forces of land, sea and to the to the air.

The head of our government, Comrade Juan Negrin, after continued outbursts of applause, declared that he accepted the governmental position replacing Largo Caballero as a war service. His first words were a general account of the formation of the new government. He outlined these steps as follows:

1. Representation of all the parties that figured in the previous government.

2. Indirect representation of those forces which took part in the previous government and who are not represented directly in the new one. (Here he was referring to the two largest trade unions of Spain, the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. When the new government was formed the U. G. T., then headed by Caballero, refused to enter it. Consequently the C. N. T. followed suit.)

3. Primary attention to the creation of a strong navy, and in general to all war problems.

4. Concentration of the offices of the Cabinet Minister.

5. The right of the different parties to designate their ministers. The liberty of the government to occupy the high offices to meet the exigencies of the war.

With these points as a basis, Negrin elaborated the discussion on how the Government immediately set about the tasks of cleaning up the rearguard, maintaining public morale against the invaders, setting up a ministry of sea and air, solving military problems, advancing the economic and cultural standards of the people, and dealing with international questions -- all of these with the primary aim of winning the war and preparing for peace.

(Continued on page 16.)

"TO THE HEROIC INTERNATIONAL FIGHTERS"

The following messages and statements have been forwarded to the War Commissariat of the International Brigades on the anniversary of the arrival in Spain of the first international columns -- a year ago, October 14th, 1936.

**From the Committee
Of the Madrid United
Federation of Trade Unions**

"What can we say of our admiration toward the men of other countries who have forsaken their homes to share the tragedy that encompasses our country, and who have understood the importance, in order that the human race shall go forward, which our triumph will represent?

"They know from personal experience what fascism is: the final bulwark of a system of exploitation and tyranny that is imposed by the ferocity of capitalism. This system has no reason for continuing its existence; it wishes to grind under its military boot all that is most noble, most sacred, most proud in the human race; to crush our most precious possession, the very reason for the existence of the human race: PROGRESS.

"To these men from foreign frontiers who generously came to offer their lives for liberty we can pay no greater homage than our fervent recognition, from this sublime and heroic nation, which with its blood is fertilizing the furrows which shall give a new seed to humanity, with which there shall be spread good-will and well-being around the circumference of the earth.

"Honor to these heroic fighters of the International Brigade!

"Long live the commissars of international antifascist solidarity!"

**From the General
Secretary of the
Madrid Popular Front.**

"At present, for their aid in the struggle we are engaged in against reaction; and because in the future they will be the base of the World Popular Front, capable of smashing fascism internationally, we extend to the International Brigades all our friendship and our profound admiration."

SPANISH PEOPLE GREET US ON OUR FIRST ANNIVERSARY



**From the General
Secretary of the
Syndicalist Youth.**

"The soldier who came from the far countries in order to help us in our struggle for independence is the true expression of the sentiment that animates the world.

"Today these men contribute with indomitable courage in the fight to destroy our enemies. Tomorrow, it shall be we who will

help to liberate the international proletariat from all its enemies. This is the warm, fraternal feeling we have for the heroic volunteers of the International Brigades."

**From the United
Socialist Youth
(J. S. U.) of Madrid.**

"The International Brigades have taught the youth precisely two things:

U. S. PROTESTANT PREACHERS PROTEST FRANCO PROPAGANDA

NEW YORK, Oct. 6.—In answer to the propaganda being spread by Spanish bishops in defense of the fascist ring-leader, Franco, 150 Protestant preachers have published an open letter condemning these actions.

The letter declares that the attempt of the Spanish bishops to justify the military rebellion against the legitimate Spanish Government constitutes an alarming note of hostility against any popular government and against liberty, which "we Americans love so profoundly".

It adds that the bishops have made no mention of German and Italian intervention, nor of the enlistment of Moors to help Fran-

co. The letter points out that the conflict is a "struggle between the forces of democracy on one side, and the privileged classes allied with the fascists on the other side".

The signers of the letter express indignation that "they (the priests) have joined the camp of reaction and fascism". They conclude by saying: "It is difficult to believe that the attitude of the Catholic Church is in favor of the invasion of Republican Spain. These prelates will not get any sympathy in the United States, after their arbitrary declarations, and for condemning the very principles that constitute the most precious heritage of our people."

"One -- the true sentiment of solidarity; and two -- how unity makes it possible for us to overcome the most difficult obstacles.

"In saluting the valiant youth that compose these brigades, the Juventud Socialista Unificada (United Socialist Youth) assures them that our own young generation will not deviate from the path of unity in which it is marching. In this way, whenever our solidarity is needed, it will be given with the greatest efficiency.

"Honor to the youth of all countries who have fallen on our side!

"Salud to those who are ready to continue the path to victory!"

**From the Executive
Committee of "Federal
Left" of Madrid.**

"Izquierda Federal (Federal Left) declares its homage to the International Brigades for their outstanding heroism on the battlefields, where there is being waged and forged a new moral; and also for their aid in the creation of a new spirit of justice which will illuminate like a powerful beaconlight the ancient and the modern democracies."

Catalonian Youth Flay de Valera Stand on Spain

BARCELONA, Oct. 5.—The youth of the F. A. L. C. have sent a telegram to President De Valera of Ireland, reminding him that when Ireland was fighting for its independence, Catalonia was in the vanguard of its defence.

The telegram reads:

"Catalonia, which gave Ireland the title of "Sister Nation", has been deeply deceived and cruelly betrayed, in this tragic hour when it is giving its blood in the defence of its liberties.

"The conduct of the President of the Irish Free State in the League of Nations has not been worthy of a people who have known oppression and slavery.

"De Valera has not been liberal, nor generous. Nor does he have a feeling of national independence for his people. The youth of the F. A. L. C. wish to see Ireland entirely free."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT DENOUNCES WAR-MAKERS

NOTE: All quotations which follow have been re-translated from the Spanish press.

★

An historic speech on the present international situation was made by President Roosevelt last week, at the opening of a new monumental bridge in Chicago, in which the President vigorously attacked the belligerent nations that were provoking war. He indicated that the casting away of pacts made between nations show that we are in an epoch of barbarism, terror and reaction. Never, he said, have true democratic nations attempted to impose their political creeds on other nations by the shedding of blood.

He continued by pointing out that international illegality reigns.

"There has been begun an interference on the part of some countries into the internal affairs of others, or with the invasion of foreign territories the scrapping of treaties. This situation has now become so grave as to seriously threaten the very foundations of civilization. Without declaring war, nor having justifiable reasons, these countries have assassinated civilians, women and children. In peace time, submarines have attacked and torpedoed merchant ships without reason and without previous warning. There are nations that are conspiring and participating in the civil war of a country that has never preformed any hostile act toward them".

ATTACKS AGGRESSORS

He pointed out that nations that claim their liberties deny those very same principles to others. Their lack of justice and feeling for humanity have made them sacrifice peoples and nations to satisfy their desire for power and supremacy.

He expressed his hope for the future in the following manner:

"We desire to have a world in which we can breathe freely and live without fear. The nations that love peace must in unison strengthen themselves in order to reinforce the laws and principles that constitute the only basis that can guarantee peace."

The President explained that national morality was essential, like individual morality. He emphasized

ATTACKS AGGRESSOR NATIONS WHICH MENACE WORLD PEACE



FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, President of the United States

phasised the principles of international morality. In treating the question of national isolation, he said that there existed in the world an interdependence that made it technically and morally impossible for one nation to isolate itself completely from the economic and political phenomenon of the rest of the world, especially when upheavals, instead of diminishing, appear to be extending themselves.

"It is a question of vital importance for the American people that the saneness of treaties and the establishment of international morality be returned to", he said.

90 PERCENT THREATENED

The President stated that the peace and liberty of 90 percent of the world population is being threatened by the other 10 per-

cent, who disregard international principals. "This 90 percent who want peace, can and must find the means of realizing their desires."

The President further added that it is unconceivable that in modern times a nation should be so deranged and bestial as to dare to throw itself at the world in war, invading territory of other weaker nations, violating solemn treaties, all without provocation. The peace of the whole world is actually threatened by this state of affairs.

"LIKE AN EPIDEMIC"

He compared the international situation with that of an epidemic, saying that the community should avoid allowing the community to reach its dangerous stage.

He concluded his speech with the following words: "War is con-

tagious declared or undeclared; it engulfs the peoples of all nations in a theater of hostilities. Although we are ready to separate ourselves from it, we cannot avoid its disastrous effects, nor the danger of being involved in the fight. We must adopt mediums to reduce the complicated possibilities, but we cannot escape completely from a world engulfed in disorder. The principles of peace must be restored for civilization to have life, and confidence among all nations restored. The desire for peace must be manifested in such a form that nations be deterred from violating agreements and taught to respect the rights of others. We must establish positive designs to safeguard peace. America detests war and hopes for peace. America, therefore, is committed to preserve peace."

The President said that 12 cents out of every dollar is being used for war preparation.

His speech was made to 50,000 people, and was also radioed to all of America.

NEGRIN COMMENTS

Doctor Juan Negrin made public his opinion regarding President Roosevelt's speech. He said: "I agree entirely with the words of the illustrious President of the United States. They come as a reinforcement to the moral movement that is being produced in the world against international disloyalty and the methods of violence employed by the Totalitarian States. I believe they will contribute to clear away the tense and threatening atmosphere that encircle the activities of the pacific countries. It is a shame that these words were not sounded before, when they could have influenced the deliberations at Geneva in respect to Spain."

FASCIST DISTORT WORDS

BERLIN. — Here the Berlin press published President Roosevelt's speech in the most mutilated form, suppressing many paragraphs.

It is said in Berlin that, because of the political experience with former President Wilson, Germany must distrust the initiative of Americans in the international field.

LIFE IN REBEL BILBAO TODAY

The following message from a Republican who remained behind when the fascists occupied Bilbao gives a first-hand picture of life in that city at the present time.

On the day of the occupation of Bilbao, the first Italian forces, consisting of two columns of Black Arrows, arrived at the centre of the city singing "Giovinezza" and shouting "Viva Italia". During their passage through the streets they fired at the windows and balconies from which the Republican and Basque nationalist flags were flying. As a result of the firing eleven people were killed and twenty-three wounded.

A lieutenant colonel of Franco's Army, replying to an ironic remark of a German officer on the lack of enthusiasm shown by the citizens said:

"I must address the people in order to tell them that they are under our power that they must show their jubilation."

The idea was approved and ascending the balcony of one of the largest public buildings in the city, the lieutenant colonel cried: "People of Bilbao! The glorious nationalist Army has just freed you from the claws of Red separatism..."

Not one balcony opened and not a single person came to listen to him. Enraged by the ridicule he had put himself to, the lieutenant colonel ordered a military procession to take place in the early afternoon and guaranteed on his word of honour that "the people of Bilbao would show due enthusiasm."

In effect, during the march-past of the "nationalist" troops, the balconies on both sides of the street were lined with people who applauded the soldiers with more or less enthusiasm.

This was due to the fact that a large section of the rebel troops were ordered to enter all the private houses in groups of six, with fixed bayonets, and oblige the inhabitants to stand on the balconies and applaud the conquerors as they marched by. Six men and two women killed for refusing to applaud.

On the following day the military authorities, wishing to convey an impression of normality which will never exist in Bilbao as long as it is occupied by the fascists, published a decree ordering all shop-

keepers and factory owners to resume work as in normal conditions, threatening them with severe measures if they refused. In the same decree the priests were ordered to return their parishes in order to say mass as usual.

The decree was completely useless. Not one shop-keeper, nor factory-owner, nor priest showed any signs of life. This passive resistance of the middle classes against fascism had a most depressing effect on the military and civil authorities, who had to go to other towns in order to procure priests to officiate in the churches and by this means avoid the farcical spectacle of an army which to defend religion, having no priests willing to say mass for it.

Thus, during the first days of fascist occupation in Bilbao, three priests as well as ninety-two shop-keepers were shot without trial.

CITY PILLAGED

One morning a few days later all the shops in the centre of the city had placard posted outside them bearing the Falangist symbol and the following words:

"Spanish soldier fighting for the Fatherland: If you need any article in this shop, enter and take it: It belongs to you. The owner is an enemy of our sacred cause, who is attacking you in a cowardly fashion."

There is little need to say that the Italian and German troops, obeying the order to the letter, dedicated themselves for several hours to the pillage of Bilbao.



When the matter came to the knowledge of the authorities, the shops had been despoiled of all their goods.

BILBAO GERMAN COLONY

At the present time Bilbao is a German colony. In spite of the fact that the Italians played by far the greatest part in its conquest, all official organisms passed immediately into the hands of the Germans. All private companies are run by Germans. Germans are in charge of the reconstruction of the blast furnaces without which Bilbao's iron cannot be smel-

led: they have control of the trams and of the railways, as well as the reconstruction of all the bridges. The best hotels are occupied by Germans and to enter them special passes have to be produced.

The following story is significant of the attitude of the people of Bilbao towards invaders:

One Sunday afternoon a number of upper class inhabitants were sitting in one of the most fashionable cafes of the town. Suddenly the public realised that some Italian soldiers had entered the establishment. Moved by a feeling of hatred, everyone rose and began leaving. The Italians, who instantly understood what was going on, began shouting insults at the people.

A torrent of spoons, cups and glasses fell on the invaders as a patriotic protest against their provocation. Overcome with rage, one of the soliders drew his pistol and began firing on the customers, who seized him and gave him a thorough hiding. When calm had been restored it was discovered that the shots fired by the Italian soldier had caused the following victims:

One little girl of five, wounded in the arm; a waiter, wounded in the shoulder; and a woman, wounded in the stomach and head...

This is just one illustration of the insults the Basque people have to put up with at the hands of their foreign conquerors.



VIEW OF BILBAO before the foreign fascist invaders began their destructive offensive, killing and murdering its people.

THE U. G. T. MOVES TOWARD GREATER UNITY

Much concern was manifested recently throughout Spain at the news of the expulsion of 14 national industrial unions by the Executive Committee of the U. G. T. At a time when the greatest possible unity was an absolute prerequisite for winning the war against Fascism, the news of further split and dissension was clearly cause for alarm. The Executive Committee of the U. G. T., dominated as it was by Caballero and his followers, not having been renewed during the last five years, followed a course which was bound to lead to disaster. Its actions, such as failure to support the present government upon its formation in May, was rebuked and over-ruled on several occasions by the National Committee. It was becoming quite clear that the Executive Committee ceased to reflect the actual sentiments of the

U. G. T. workers and was playing a game which could help only the enemies of the Spanish people.

In order to wrest control of the National Committee which was scheduled to meet shortly, the Executive Committee started a campaign of expulsions. Using the slim pretext that certain unions were behind in their dues payments, a campaign was started to expel precisely those unions which fought consistently for unity and for unconditional support of the Negrin government, which they considered a government of victory over the fascist enemy. The actual expulsions began and 14 national unions, including some of the largest and most important unions, such as the Asturian Miners, Madrid Bakers, found themselves excluded from the ranks of the U. G. T.

At a time when the entire nat-

ion was showing the greatest sympathy and solidarity with the Asturian miners, who are conducting such a heroic struggle against the advancing fascist hordes and who are shedding blood in defense of their land and liberties, news was received of their expulsion from the U. G. T. for alleged non-



payment of dues. The leaders of the Executive Committee of the U. G. T., busy with the work of dividing the ranks of the workers, steeped in their hatred of the present government, did nothing to help the struggle against the invading fascist forces in the North but found time and a means of notifying the Miners Union of Asturias of its expulsion from the U. G. T.

NATION INDIGNANT

During the month of September the trade unionist of Spain showed how they felt about this matter. A wave of unheard-of indignation spread throughout the country. Union after union adopted resolutions calling for a stop to this disruption and splitting policy by the Executive Committee. In cities, towns and villages U. G. T. organizations were roused into action against misdeeds of the Executive Committee. Finally on September 27, in besieged Madrid, the local executive committee met and condemned unanimously the policy of the national Executive Committee in expelling the 14 national unions. A cry came forth everywhere for a full meeting of the National Committee to deal with the situation and to bring about unity in the ranks of the U. G. T.

NEW COMMITTEE CHOSEN

On Oct. 1, the meeting of the National Committee was convened in Valencia. The meeting fully represented the 30 national unions affiliated with the U. G. T. The meeting considered that the Executive Committee heretofore did not represent the true will of the membership of the U. G. T. and had acted against their interests.

The meeting invalidated the expulsions of the 14 national unions and finally elected a new Executive Committee. It retained only one member of the former Executive Committee, one who had consistently opposed the splitting tactics of the old leadership. The meeting named Ramon González Peña, of the miners' union, as President; Edmundo Domínguez, vice-president; Jose Rodriguez Vega, general secretary, and Amaro Rosal Diaz as assistant secretary. Immediate action was taken to notify the International Federation of Trade Unions of the change of leadership of the U. G. T.

SOLID SUPPORT

The first step of the new Executive Committee was to visit Dr. Juan Negrin and affirm the unconditional support of the U. G. T. of his government and pledge to mobilize the broad membership of the U. G. T. in active work for the execution of the tasks set to them by the Peoples Front government. The new leadership immediately contacted the leadership of the C. N. T. and pledged to maintain the closest co-operation between the two great trade union organizations and to work untiringly for the organic unity of the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. so that in the very near future both bodies could merge into a powerful, single, united trade union movement of Spain.

The latest developments in the U. G. T. are indeed heartening.



With change in the leadership of the Executive Committee, with the great spirit of unity displayed at the first session of this body on Oct. 2nd, there is reason to believe that the greatest possible unity of the trade union movement will be welded. The trade union movement will be able now to march with the rest of the nation in the great anti-fascist People's Front towards victory over the foreign fascist invaders and towards a free, happy and prosperous Spain.

D. M.



AFTER THE AIR RAID, women and children leaving their underground refuge.

THE WORLD SITUATION— IS IT PEACE OR WAR?

(Continued from page 9.)

and in the south, there is constant fighting. The situation has become such that Italian soldiers are afraid to move outside their garrisons. It is certain that as fascist Italy's difficulties increase, the Abyssinian resistance will grow.

THE FAR EAST

In the Far East, the struggle for Chinese independence continues. Japanese fascism, well-armed, with its well laid plans for the conquest of the north of China, is met by an unexpected resistance. The growing unity of the Chinese people, which has its parallels here in Spain, faces Japan with serious problems. Its advance is much slower, and is costing far more than it had anticipated, and it is already evident that it is probably not Chinese independence which is in danger, but the continued existence of Japanese fascism. The eighth Army not long ago inflicted a terrific defeat on the Japanese, killing or wounding 30,000 men. Four days later, in the region of Tsang-Chou, a thousand Japanese troops were surprised and captured.

It would be foolish to expect an early victory of the Chinese people, for Japan has a terrific preponderance of arms, but Japan's internal situation, like that of Germany and Italy, is rapidly deteriorating. The Manchurian conquest has not provided the results expected, either in the way of profits or of minerals. The preparations for war have been a great strain on the not too strong Japanese economy; and war itself, if not quickly ended, may prove disastrous. During the past six months, there have been more strikes than during the whole history of the Japanese labour movement.

PROGRESS IN U. S. S. R.

In striking contrast to the conditions obtaining in the fascist countries, is the constant progress of the people of the USSR. Whereas, despite the enormous armaments production, after eight years the total production of the capitalist countries stands more or less where it did, that of the Soviet Union has increased several times over. Translated into terms of human happiness, the effect of this increase in produc-

tion is enormous. Nor can any limits be set to this growing prosperity of the Russian people. In its relations with other states, the USSR is recognised as the strongest and most consistent fighter for collective peace, and it is against this great people that the most vindictive spleen of the warmakers is directed, as being the greatest obstacle to the realisation of their plans of conquest.

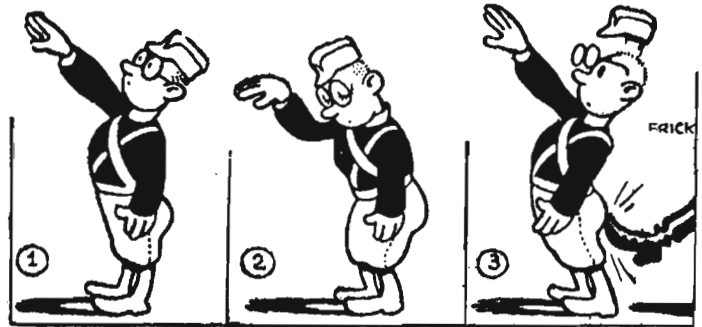
At Geneva, Litvinov's speech has revived hope among the peace forces in the League of Nations. Clearly and simply he showed that despite all that has happened to weaken it, the League is still capable of holding the aggressors in check and of stopping new aggressions. Great Britain, despite its strenuous denials of the past, has now been brought to the point where it can no longer deny the violation of the "non-intervention" agreement. No steps are being taken to end intervention in Spain, but the recognition of the fact of aggression is a step forward from the previous position.

BRITAIN REMAINS KEY

It is evident that Britain remains the key to the world situation. A few words of the right kind from the British statesmen could change the alignment of the world forces in favor of peace. But these words will never be spoken by the "National" government of its own free will. Only the combined pressure of the progressive people can compel a change of its present line. It is tragic that leaders of the Labour movement, such as Bevin and Citrine, can prevent, even for a little time, the unity of the anti-fascist and anti-war opinion, which now, lacking leadership and cohesion, are ineffectual, could unitedly become such a force as would compel its wishes to be carried out. History will look back with curiosity upon these few men, who have, in effect, the destiny of the world in their hands for a short space of time, and it will wonder at their blindness and stupidity. But there are others in the Labour movement who see with clarity the danger which confronts the world.

But will Unity arrive in time? Events are moving quickly.

O. C. G.



THE FUEHRER TALKS

AND TALKS

AND TALKS

15TH INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE SALUTES MADRID STUDENTS, ACCEPTING THEIR BANNER

TO THE STUDENTS OF THE LAGASCA INSTITUTE

Dear Comrades,

Your action in undertaking the patronage of our Brigade adds another link in the already powerful bonds of international solidarity between the people of Spain and those of our several lands. Now in the fight for the cause of Spanish democracy, which is the cause of all humanity, we realize the significance of, and are proud to accept, your proffered banner for the symbol of our mutual struggle.

We have watched the fast-growing student and youth movement of Spain. Everywhere we see the signs of unity of the rearguard. We are very happy to note that among the leaders in this movement for unity are the students. In the forefront stands the youth of Spain who have undergone so much and who still fight on in the vanguard of the Spanish forces.

Among our ranks are many students from many lands; some of the best fighters in the Brigade sprang from the student movement, where they learned the simple elements of the struggle for civil and political liberties, political rights, and often even economic subsistence.

We regret that it was not possible for the Brigade to be present at the tendering of the banner to our unit. We were occupied carving further records, further cause for you to be proud of us—our roles in the captures of Quinto and Belchite may well fill you with pride. Soon we hope to return to the Center Front where it will be possible for us to make a fact the desire now held by both of us: cement the bonds of comradeship and understanding between us. We hope to be able to send delegations to visit you and become acquainted with the individuals who comprise your group. In the same manner we hope that you will be able to send express our gratification in your interest and assure you of similar sentiments on our part.

For the men of the Fifteenth International Brigade we send to your group the warmest antifascist greetings.

V. COPIC

Commander of Brigade

STEVE NELSON

Political Commissar.

ROBERT H. MERRIMAN

Chief of Staff.

NEWS BRIEFS

MOSCOW. For the next year the Soviet Government has put aside 4,200,000 rubles for the construction of a system of railways in the Ukrainian region.

★

BERLIN.—We get news that Hitler has accepted Mussolini's invitation to repay the latter's recent visit, by going to Rome.

★

MARSEILLE.—The attempt to ship 200 tons of sulphur to fascist Las Palmas (Mallorca Island seaport), last week, resulted in an effective refusal by the port stevedores to load the boat. The cargo ship "Medic" was forced to sail without the sulphur.

★

MOSCOW. More than 1000 Asturian children between the ages of 15 and 16 have arrived here this week on board the two Soviet ships, "Cooperation" and "Dzerjinski". The voyage along the Spanish coast was perilously made under direct rebel fire.

In the Mancha Canal, the "Cooperation" encountered an Italian ship. When the young voyagers recognized the Italian flag they let loose prolonged cries of condemnation to the fascist ship.



LEAVING THE REFUGIO: A mother looks anxiously at the sky, to see whether all the planes have departed, before venturing out again, child in arm, into the streets.

OCTOBER 16th

Perhaps today
You will remember John Brown.

John Brown
Who took his gun,
Took twenty-one companions
White and black,
Went to shoot your way to freedom
Where two rivers meet
And the hills of the
North
And the hills of the
South
Look slow at one another —
And died
For your sake.

Now that you are
Many years free,
And the echo of the Civil War
Has passed away,
And Brown himself
Has long been tried at law,
Hung by the neck,
And buried in the ground —
Since Harpers Ferry
Is alive with ghosts today,
Immortal raiders
Come again to town —

Perhaps
You will recall
John Brown.

LANGSTON HUGHES



IN MEMORIAM
OLIVER LAW
Commander of the Lincoln
Battalion in the July
offensive

Died on the Field of Battle
July 10, 1937

LETTERS from HOME

(Continued from page 10)

keep on spreading them around...

The steel situation is now quiet, but the auto workers have held their convention. They have grown in little more than a year from 35,000 to 350,000; and we will see the day soon, I believe, when they will get old Henry Ford also lined up.

Your collective letters are fine. Keep'em up. Keep sending me mail and make your letters informative to the fullest extent, of course together with everything else you want to write. For we can surely use these letters to get additional and stronger support for Loyalist Spain and for the International Brigades...

B. M.

RALPH FOX BATTALION

Another indication of the international solidarity among the different national volunteers in Spain, not only with the Spanish people, but with each other, exists in the form of a complete battalion of the 14th International (Franco-Belge) Brigade. This is the Ralph Fox (12th) Battalion, so named as far back as last April, in honor of the noted English novelist and writer whose death here shocked the world.

"The battalion was named 'Ralph Fox' at a time when there were still a number of British volunteers in each company", says Commander Dumont of the 14th Brigade. "These men were afterward transferred to the 15th Brigade, but we felt that it would be most fitting to retain the name

of this man who won our love and our admiration in the early days of the war."



VIGILANCE IN THE FIELDS: This peasant, one of the young heroes of the war against fascism, guardian of the nation's food supply.



A Survey of Some of the Products that Hitler and Mussolini are After

In the year 1910 a detailed study was made of the reser-

The classic deposits of Vizcaya, Santander and Guipuzcoa in the North and those of Seville, Huelva, Almeria and Murcia in the South, especially as far as better quality ore is concerned, are nearly exhausted. On the other hand there are large deposits of unexploited iron ore in the provinces

Spain has never been and can never be an exporter of fuels, yet she produces enough coal for her own needs, except for certain special varieties. On the other hand she has no liquid fuels and every drop of oil, petroleum, etc. has to be

Spain is the greatest producer and exporter of pyrites and she possesses 50 % of the world's reserves. The Spanish pyrites, some of them iron and others ferro-copper, are located in a belt covering the province of Huelva and part of that of Seville.

Spain was for many years the greatest European producer of lead, but at the present time her position has changed,

(Continued on page 6.)



THE 20TH BIRTHDAY OF THE U. S. S. R.

The progressive people of the world will soon celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics. All the world has watched most intensely how the Soviet Union battled its way during all these years against the stream, against hostile surroundings, until it has grown to be one of the most powerful nations of the world. Surrounded by enemies on all sides — facing economic blockade and foreign intervention; total disruption of all aspects of economic life; famine and disease — the peoples of the Soviet Union, overcoming difficulty after difficulty, kept their steady onward march to a new and better life.

During these twenty long years the progressive-minded people — workers, farmers, intellectuals — the world over rallied to the cause of the Soviet people. In the dark days of twenty years ago, the British and American seamen refused to load ships with cargoes of arms destined for the white armies of intervention. French sailors in the Black Sea, led by Andre Marty, revolted against being used to down the cause of the Soviet people. Material and moral aid came from all lands to the great Soviet people in their hour of need. It was with International Solidarity that the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union were able to triumph over all enemies —

internal and foreign. Today, the U. S. S. R. looks forward to a grand future of freedom and prosperity for its 170 million people of hundreds of races and nationalities.

A LONG WAY

During these twenty years this mighty nation has traveled a long way. From one of the most backward countries, kept in poverty and ignorance and as a result of years of imperialist and civil wars — desolated and ruined — the people with sacrifice and enthusiasm, unknown in the past, pushed forward and re-constructed a nation which stands today among the foremost in the world. Step by step the U. S. S. R. went through the stages of military communism to the New Economic Policy (NEP) to the period of socialist construction and planning and the brilliant fulfillment of the first and second 5 Year Plans. It lifted itself by its own bootstraps from a land lacking industry and culture to one of the most technically developed countries. Today, with its mass production industries, socialized agriculture, most highly developed culture and education, with its vast resources used for the benefit of all the people, the Soviet Union continues on the road to prosperity and culture, surpassing the expectations of all and reali-

zing the ideals of the world's greatest thinkers. It was victorious against its foreign invading enemy as well as the last remnants of the internal foe — the Trotskyite wreckers and spies — because the peo-



ANDRE MARTY

Paris Deputy, hero of Black Sea revolt, and indefatigable fighter against fascism.

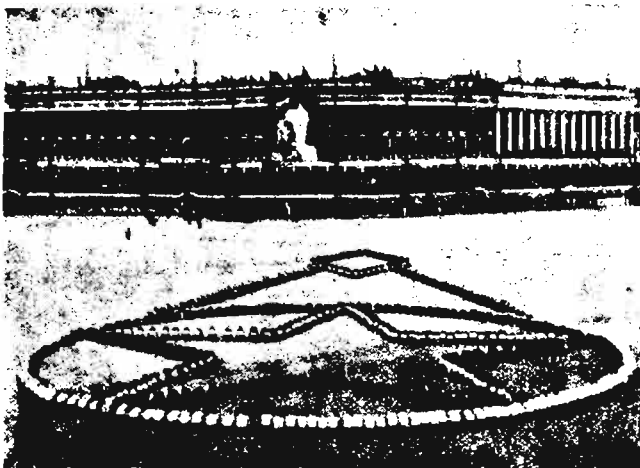
ple were united and fought with all their being for the triumph of the Soviet cause.

While dark forces of reaction threaten the people of the rest of the world, in the Soviet Union the people are enjoying the fruits of their struggles and labors. The new Soviet Constitution opens new and greater vistas of democracy and freedom — guaranteeing the rights of all and safeguarding the democratic aspirations of the millions of Soviet peoples. How different is the situation in the rest of the world? Fascism the deadly enemy of progress and democracy has engulfed many nations during these twenty years. In Italy, Germany, Japan, Austria in the Baltic and Balkan countries — new tyrannies and despotisms have been imposed on the people by their fascist rulers. These fascist powers have not only deprived their own peoples of their freedom but today are threatening the liberties of the rest of the world. In 1936 the troops of Mussolini started their unprovoked aggression against the Ethiopian people. By wholesale mur-

der and brutality, the fascist hordes imposed their bloody rule over the Ethiopian people. In 1936, the troops of Hitler and Mussolini, started a fresh aggression when they invaded the soil of Spain and in their attempt to destroy the Peoples Front government and turn this country into a colony of Italo-German fascism. In 1937 the Japanese war-makers invade China and deal death to the innocent people and despite the indignation of the entire civilized world, are attempting to steal the land and liberties of the vast Chinese people.

FOR PEACE, PROGRESS

While the forces of human progress and peace throughout the world protest in awe against the brutalities of the war-makers and offer their aid to the people fighting against the invaders and aggressors, the governments of Europe and America continue to play with the non-intervention game the farce which only serves to encourage the fascist barbarians. One nation of all has taken the side of surest advance in the world conflict between the forces of peace and progress and war and reaction, i. e. the Soviet Union. The role played by the representatives of the U. S. S. R. in the cause of democracy and peace in Geneva needs little repetition. It tore the mask off of the fascist war-makers and pointed its accusing finger to Italy, Germany and Japan as the bandits and those threatening peace of the world. It has championed the rights of Ethiopia, Spain and China before the League of Nations and the world. It has aided Spain as no other nation. It is only under the constant pressure of Soviet diplomacy that world public opinion is crystalizing and in turn forcing action on the part of the democratic and pacific governments. The recent speech of President F. D. Roosevelt, the victories for Spain at Nyon and Geneva, the mild actions of France and



MAY DAY celebration in Moscow's Red Square.

(Continued on page 6.)

MADRID'S HOUSE OF CULTURE

One of the liveliest artistic and intellectual centers in the world at the moment, is, without doubt, the house of the Alianza de Intelectuales Antifascistas in Madrid. (In English, we would say the Alliance of Antifascist Intellectuals.) It is a large house, in fact a palace, belonging to a former gentleman of title and a descendant of slave-traders by the way—who fled from Spain to devote his riches and his aid to the cause of those who are trying to overturn the government and force the people back into feudalism. The Marquis, for that was his title, took with him all the gold he could carry, but he left his palace, his Sorollas and El Greco, his hand-carved furniture, and his enormous library behind him. Now his mansion has been taken over by the State. And the State has given it into the care of artists and writers as the headquarters and meeting place of all those men and women in Madrid who are devoting their pens, paint brushes, and talents to the Spanish Republic and its welfare.

SHELTERS ALL ARTS

The Alianza de Intelectuales Antifascistas itself, as an organization, is an outgrowth of the First International Writers Congress held in Paris in 1935. But, in Spain, it has been en-

larged to include not only writers, but painters, sculptors, composers, and all others who, through the arts, are contributing to a better and more beautiful world. It now has centers, or affiliates, in Valencia, Barcelona, and Alicante. When the fascist rebellion broke out, the Alianza immediately aligned itself with the government, and began to devote all its resources to the preservation of the Republic—for who could know better than artists and writers what happens to creative efforts under a Fascist regime?

Many of the members of the Alianza had experienced censorship and suppression of thought under the monarchy and the dictatorship of the late Primo de Rivero. And all of them know what happened to books and theatres and science in Germany and Italy. They do not want that to happen here.

MANY ON FRONTS

That is why, last November when Franco and his Italians and Moors were at the gates of Madrid, many Spanish writers and artists and musicians died on the barricades defending their city against the burners of books and the assassins of culture on the rebel side. At present, many of the members of the Alianza are at the front, some as soldiers, some as tea-

chers in the campaign against illiteracy, others as editors of brigade newspapers or as makers of posters, some reading their poems to the troops, others playing their own music in the trenches.

Here in Madrid, the house is a hive of intense and varied intellectual activities. Its president is José Bergamin, the Catholic writer. Its Executive Secretary is the poet, Rafael Alberti. (Alberti and his wife, Maria Teresa Leon, writer of short stories, are known in New York and in Latin America, having lectured there a few years ago.) In and out of this Madrid house, formerly a palace for the idle rich, now pour the best of the Spanish writers and artists and thinkers, as well as the visiting foreigners resident in Spain or here gathering material for articles and books: famous foreigners like Ernest Hemingway, like Andre Malraux, like Ludwig Renn, Egon Erwin Kisch, Gustav Regler, Jef Last, and Michael Koltsov.

MANY ARTISTS KILLED

Sometimes these writers Spanish or foreign, leave the house to continue their work as fighters or artists at the front, and they do not come back again. Pablo de la Torriente, the Cuban, went away a few months ago, never to return. He was killed at Majada Honda. One of Spain's great sculptors, Francisco Perez Mateo, died in the defense of Madrid. The poet, Federico Garcia Lorca, was executed in rebel territory at Granada. And in the battle of Brunete, that excellent woman photographer, Gerda Taro, was killed while making pictures of the soldiers of the People's Army for the papers and magazines she represented in Paris. You see, the artists and writers who frequent the Alianza in Madrid are not of the ivory tower school. In fact, there couldn't possibly be an ivory tower in Madrid. The Fascist cannons would blast it to pieces.

WHAT THEY DO

In time of war, what can writers and artists do that is useful, entertaining, and beautiful in a living and vital way? Here are some of the things the Alianza did—and does. At the



MARIA TERESA LEON

Short Story writer, and first woman in Spain to direct a playhouse.

beginning of the War, many members of the Alianza went into the trenches and the villages near the front, explaining to the fighters the basic meaning of this War, and why a group of industrialists and military men had chosen to rise against the majority of the voters of Spain. They made posters, they gave speeches, they read poems, they worked with and under the direction of the Ministry of Public Instruction. From Paris, the French writers sent them, as a present, a school on wheels, a truck equipped with a motion picture machine and a printing press, brought to Spain by a committee headed by Louis Aragon, famous poet and novelist.

Last August, a year ago, the Alianza founded its paper, EL MONO AZUL, (Overalls), and began to publish stories, poems, and chronicals of the war. When the People's Army was formed, members of the Alianza helped to establish, and several of them still edit, the Brigade newspapers that are

(Continued on page 6.)



RAFAEL ALBERTI

speaking at the Second International Writers Congress.

HEART OF SPAIN

How Film of Spain is Affecting Our Countrymen Back in the U. S.

The following letter, from one of the producers of the film, "Heart of Spain", is perhaps the most vivid and informative to reach us on the work of the cinema in enlisting aid for the victims of Fascist aggression. It is for this reason, and because we are sure that the contents of this letter will interest our own men, that we reprint it herewith.

Two ambulances have been purchased by a number of progressive film stars and directors and scenario - writers for Spain — and these ambulances are now touring the United States, showing the picture "Heart of Spain". On the sides of the ambulances are painted the names of such notable Hollywood figures as Betty Furness, Fred Keating, Franchot Tone, Lionel Stander, Guy Endore, Ben Hecht, Humphrey Cobb, Florence Eldridge, Lewis Milestone, and many others.

And now for the letter:

"I haven't written you since HEART OF SPAIN opened at the Fifty-Fifth Street Theatre last week. It's playing with Jean Renoir's "The Lower Depths", a very brilliant film, and turning them away as well as knocking them over. It is a very exciting thing, after you have put your heart and feverish intensity into a work, to

go into a theatre, see it thrown up on the screen, and affect the audience in just the way you had planned and desired.

"It's terrific experience to be in the theatre when HEART OF SPAIN is on. People around you gasp and sigh at intervals; you feel a tightening throughout the audience. The other day, in the row behind me, an old man kept trying to muffle his sobs throughout the latter half of the picture; but the sound came right through the hand over his mouth.

MANY FAINT

"Almost every day some one or other faints at the shock of the blood transfusions and the cumulative emotion of the film. For the first time people are seeing a Spanish document that makes them participate vividly in the horror of fascist invasion and the heroism of the people's fight. All of us have used every bit of ingenuity to put the shots, taken in Spain, into the most effective sequence. And the result must have some of the shock, horror and heroic determination that is the actual

experience of the Spanish people.

"One day I stood outside the theatre and stopped a woman of about the same age and figure as X. I told her I was one of the people who had worked on the film and wanted to know what her reactions were.



I then saw that her eyes were red and that she could hardly speak. With difficulty she said: "I felt it in my heart very much... It is terrible and also wonderful." The manager of the theatre told us of his experience with two other women. The first came out of the house in a rage, asked for the manager, and proceeded to explode that this was a communist picture: what the hell is this theatre becoming anyhow, she fumed, a communist house? ... But immediately after-

ward, a woman whom he described as an "aristocratic type" asked for the manager; this one proceeded to explode that this was one of the finest films she had ever seen, that every American ought to see it. And when he told her that another woman had just complained that HEART OF SPAIN was communistic, she said that that was nonsense. It was the truth. And the management ought to get the best writer in America to write about the picture, so that every American would want to see it.

"One of the most interesting experiences I had was in connection with the fainting of a young actor who sat beside me. About halfway through the film, he started to waver a little, turn away, turn back to the screen. Finally he slid by me, and sat down again in the back of the house. At the end of the picture he went back into the lobby for water, where the usher saw him sagging and helped him up to the office. I came up later and saw him sprawled out on a couch. He was given smelling salts and spirits of ammonia and finally came to. The first words he said were: "I'm going to send all my friends to see this picture". Which I was rather surprised.

(Continued on page 6.)

AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN VISIT SPAIN

Two well-known American Congressmen arrived in Spain a week ago — Representatives Jerry O'Connell, Democrat from the State of Montana, and John T. Bernard, Minnesota Farmer-Laborite. The visit of two outstanding American political figures is an important gesture of sympathy on the part of the American people toward the Spanish Republican cause. Both have taken formidable parts in the movements in the United States that called for the defense of the rights of Loyalist Spain.

O'Connell, who champions

the cause of miners, railroad, steel and farm workers, is a leader of the Democratic-Progressive group in the House of Representatives. He was one of the few Representatives who fought tooth and nail against the so-called "Neutrality Law". At the same time he figured among the Legislative Delegation which visited Secretary of State Hull to protest the political neutrality of the U. S. Government. In addition, he was one of the four signers of the widely-publicised letter that was sent to Secretary Hull favoring Loyal Spain. At a great mass meeting, held in New York City on July 19, in cele-

bration of the first anniversary of the Spanish War, O'Connell presided and delivered a speech for the loyal Spanish people that resounded around the world. Son of a miner who was killed in an accident while working in a copper mine belonging to the Anaconda Copper Corporation, he also became a miner at an early age. After many sacrifices he succeeded in obtaining his lawyer's degree.

Bernard has carried on an intensive campaign among mine, factory, and steel mill workers' organizations of the United States in favor of Loyalist

Spain. His pro-labor actions in the House of Representatives have gained for him an enviable reputation. He was one of the 28 Representatives who defended the call for an embargo of commodities against Italy, Germany and Portugal. He is a man of considerable culture, and a veteran of the World War.

O'Connell and Bernard will visit the fronts, and will be guests of honor in special affairs arranged for them by the Government in Valencia, Madrid and Barcelona. Trade Union and political organizations are also making special preparations in their honor.

Dr. Negrin Clarifies Status of the International Brigades

On the evening of Sunday, October 10th, Dr. Negrin made the following statement on behalf of the Spanish Government to a meeting of foreign journalists:

--I have taken the liberty of asking you to be present here in order to make certain corrections arising from Signor Mussolini's note, the inaccuracies of which are a proof of the confusion of the Italian Government when replying to the communique of the Governments of France and the United Kingdom.

THE SPANISH I. B.

The Italian document states that our representatives at Geneva expressed our Government's opposition to the withdrawal of the volunteers who are fighting in the Republican ranks. This assertion is untrue. The statement made by Sr. Azcarate, which our Government supports in its entirety, was as follows:

"Reference has been made, and I do not want to pass this over in silence, to the existence of the International Brigade about which there is constant talk in the press. Very well. Allow me to draw a clear distinction, or rather to repeat a clear distinction which has been drawn on different occasions by the Spanish delegation: what is known as the International Brigade is formed by foreigners who have come to Spain to defend an ideal. But the International Brigade, as a body, as an entity, is absolutely Spanish and is absolutely subordinate to the Government of the Republic."

WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGNERS

As you see, Sr. Azcarate only wished to point out that those who form part of the Republican Army as volunteers are, in actual fact, volunteers because they joined the Army voluntarily, inspired by an ideal, whereas the German and Italian forces are not volunteers, because they came to Spain involuntarily and are in regular Corps of occupation. Consequently the Repu-



Dr. JUAN NEGRIN
head of the Spanish Republican Government.

blican volunteer forces can be withdrawn from our country when the Government sees fit, and this will be the case on the day when we are certain of reciprocity. Those of you who have spent some time in our country already, know that the international forces have a percentage of foreigners which is lower in many cases than the percentage of Spaniards enrolled in their units. The Government does not see the least obstacle in arranging for the departure of these foreigners from Spain. The same cannot be said of the rebel Junta which will come up against wills greater than its own. But furthermore the Government of the Republic, in its note of March 4th, declared solemnly: While considering that it is not possible to establish equality between those who, convinced of the justice of the Republican cause, come of their own free will to fight under our banners, defending at the same time the freedom and peace of Europe, and those who, belonging to military units of the totalitarian states, were sent, obeying definite orders from their respective Governments, to uphold the military rebellion by armed force, the Government of the Republic received resolutely the idea of re-embarking all the foreigners who are participating in

the present struggle on the side of the Government and the side of the rebels, an idea to which the Foreign Ministers of France and the United Kingdom were clearly referring in their latest speeches at the French Senate and the House of Commons."

JUMBLING OF TEXTS

To sum up, the Government of the Republic believes that it has shown that it does not place the least difficulty in the way of eliminating the factor of the foreigners participating in our struggle. On the other hand Signor Mussolini has recourse to a vulgar jumbling of texts to cover up a new attempt to secure a delay allowing him to continue attacking our people. The Spanish Government has grounds for denouncing the fact that Italy is preparing a new determined attack, for which she has been accumulating war material and men. Signor Mussolini was certainly relying on this offensive to give him such advantages as would enable him to continue his tortuous international game. In face of this policy of evasions and delays, the Government of the Republic wants to warn world opinion that efforts are being made to give the Spanish conflict a chronic and highly dangerous character. The war continues to make havoc in our country; but we have accustomed ourselves to sacrifice and we are resolved to conquer, happen

campaign is prolonged it will lead to world war, and this fearful problem weighs heavy on our minds.

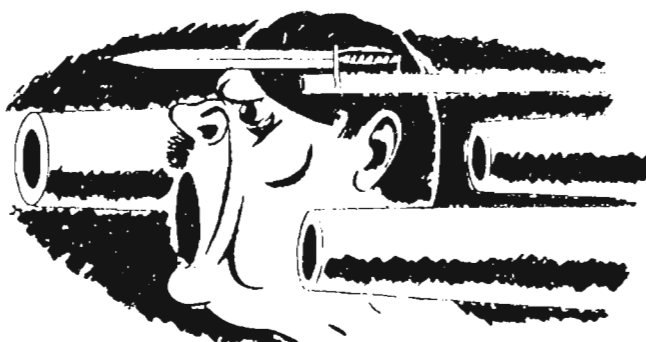
TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEERS

Lastly, the Government of the Republic categorically refutes the fallacious interpretation of the statements of our representatives at Geneva and declares itself ready to remove the foreigners from its Army; but only in exchange for a strict reciprocity.

I do not want to neglect this opportunity of paying a tribute to the men who came to our country inspired with a generous ideal of peace. Their behaviour contrasts with that of the aggressor army corps which have come to take up strategic positions with a view to aggression on a gigantic scale in the near future.

The Government of the Republic will keep a deep sense of gratitude for the help of these brave men, many of whom have lost their lives for our liberty and for the liberty of Europe, and many of whom will always be invalids or cripples as a result of their part in the fight against the common aggressor.

This will give you an idea that when the Spanish Government declares that it has been, and still is disposed to proceed to the withdrawal of the non-Spanish combatants who are at its side, the Government is in a position to be able to carry



what may. Believe me, moreover, when I say that the Government is more concerned by the consequences of our struggle abroad than with the struggle inside Spain. If the

out this withdrawal immediately--always providing that the principle of reciprocity is guaranteed--and carries its respect for loyalty to the point of making the greatest sacrifice.

House of Culture

(Continued from page 3.)

such an important part of the cultural work carried on among the men in camp and at the Front. The Alianza now has its own publishing activities, too, and has edited and printed a number of books, including a concise historical record of the war called *THE GENERAL CHRONICAL OF THE CIVIL WAR*, and also a new and valuable anthology, *POETS IN LOYALIST SPAIN*. There are now in preparation two volumes of short stories about the war, one to include the work of Spanish writers, the other the work of foreign writers familiar with democratic Spain, such as Gustav Regier, André Malraux and Kisch. In Valencia, a new and beautiful magazine, *HORA DE ESPAÑA*, has many Alianza members on its editorial board.

WRITERS' CONGRESS

But, from every standpoint, one of the most important achievements of the Alianza in recent months has been the bringing to Spain last July of the Second International Writers Congress which held sessions in Madrid, Valencia, and Barcelona, all cities within the range of Franco's shell fire or the bombs of Fascist aviation. This Congress, certainly of great historic importance, brought together more than a hundred men and women of letters from all over the world, of all races and colors, meeting at the very front line trenches for the defense of world culture and the preservation of the integrity of the arts against Fas-

cist aggression. These men and women who came to Madrid, many of them of world fame, are of those who do not wish to write books to be burned in public squares by international gangsters, or blown to bits on library shelves by bombs from the air, or censored until all their meaning is drained away. And so they came together in Spain, famous and busy people, to show their solidarity with, and their faith in the Spanish workers and intellectuals who are now battling against those forces that would kill all culture and send the human race back to the dark ages.

CENTER FOR ALL ART

The Alliance of Anti-Fascist Intellectuals is Madrid's center for such men and women. It is a center for every writer and artist who opposes the return to barbarism. It is a place where creative miracles continually happen. It is a place where now, today, art becomes life and life is art, and there is no longer any need of a bridge between the artist and the people—for the thing created becomes immediately a part of those for whom, and from whom, it was created. The poem, the picture, the song is only water drawn from the well of the people and given back to them in a cup of beauty so that they may drink—and in drinking, understand themselves.

That is art today in Loyalist Spain. And that is the function of Madrid's Alianza, the Alianza de Intelectuales Antifascistas.

LANGSTON HUGHES

20TH Birthday of U. S. S. R.

(Continued from page 2.)

Great Britain against the interventionists, are but meager results achieved by the insistence of the Soviet Union that all democratic forces unite against these forces of our common enemy the fascist incendiaries.

ALL SPAIN GREETSS USSR

Today, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the existence of the Soviet

Union, the people of the world have cause for rejoicing. The soldiers of the International Brigades know how our struggle for liberty here has been made easier by the aid of the people of the U. S. S. R. We, together with the Spanish people, and its Peoples Front government, are glad and proud of the part played by the Soviet Union in helping us to defeat the forces of Franco and his foreign masters and on this occasion hail the great people of the U. S. S. R. We hail the great leader of the Soviet people, under whose direction

the Soviet Union is marching to greater triumphs—Comrade Stalin. We know that the Soviet Union will continue to be the beacon-light to the people of the world in their fight for peace and freedom.

Spain's Minerals

(Continued from page 1.)

because for a long time production of this metal has been in a state of decadency owing to the exhaustion of the large mines and owing to the fact that during the past 30 years scarcely no new deposits of importance have been discovered. The low price of lead on the international market has been a further cause of the restriction of lead production during the past decade. Approximately 80 % of the production of lead ore is in Loyalist territory.

ZINC

By far the most important zinc deposit in Spain is that of Reocin in the province of Santander, which produces 90 % of the total output of the nation.

SULPHUR

Sulphur is one of those minerals of which the production has increased during the past few years. This is due, not to an increase in the exploitation of the sulphur deposits, but to the fact that methods have been applied which permit one to obtain sulphur as a by-product of the exploitation of pyrites.

MERCURY

In Almaden Spain possesses the greatest mercury mine in the world, not only in reserves, but also in the high content of the ore by virtue of which no other mines can successfully compete with it. The total production of mercury in 1934 was over 1,000 tons.

OTHER MINERALS

There are also small deposits of the following minerals in various parts of Spain—gold, phosphorite, manganese, tripoli, wolfram, asphalt, bismuth, tin.

To sum up it may be said that, apart from the plains of Castille and the land along the

Eastern coast, there is practically no region of Spain which does not contain profitable minerals in its subsoil.

One can, however, establish a distinction between the high-priced metals such as lead, copper and mercury, which are found principally in the Southern part of the peninsula, and iron, the greatest reserves of which are in the North West, where fortunately for the industrial future of Spain the most important coal basins are also situated.

Apart from these there are two minerals whose value is so great that they can serve as the basis for the economic reconstruction of Spain—the ferro-copper pyrites of Huelva and the potassium salts of the region extending from Catalonia to Navarre.

W. W. A.

Heart of Spain

(Continued from page 4.)

prised at. He then told us that he had once experienced the breaking of an hypodermic needle in his arm, and that was what set him off. He was due for a reading at a theatrical office; he thought he had a good chance of getting a part—never had appeared on Broadway before. He was still quite shaky, so I accompanied him downtown, feeling a little guilty because he might lose his opportunity. But he assured me that he felt alright, and that he would even read better because of the shock.

"On the way down, he told me, entirely unsolicited, that he had gone to college and dramatic school and that "this kind of thing" had always seemed so far from him, so distant, so remote. Spain had never seemed a part of his life.

"Yes, this picture seems to have the impact that can start a "change" in people. It is so important, therefore, that it go all over the country. You'll see by the enclosure that some of the Hollywood big-shots are sending the picture with two ambulances on a tour across the country... Pretty soon, I hope, a print of the film will go to Spain, so you can see it too."

Salud!

X. Y. Z.

DIANA (A. G. T.)—Larra, 6 Madrid



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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Madrid, October 25 - 1937

AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN PLEDGE TO CARRY ON WORK FOR LOYAL SPAIN

Two distinguished United States Congressmen, visiting in Spain, Jerry O'Connell, Montana Democrat, and John T. Bernard of the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party in speaking over Station EAB in Madrid Oct. 22nd, pledged to carry on even a more vigorous campaign for the cause of the loyal Spanish people when they get back home.

"Wherever we have gone", O'Connell said, "the story has been the same. The Spanish people have shown a spirit and determination that is absolutely unbeatable. In visiting the front on the University City sector, we saw the famous street barricades that were erected in the early days of the war. They are an example of the superhuman effort of which the Spanish people are capable. The barricades are sturdy walls of cement and brick. On seeing them, I thought they had been built over a period of months, not only because there are so many of them but because they are all splendid jobs of heavy masonry. The fact is, however, that they were all built within a period of twenty-four hours. I still do not see how that was humanly possible."

O'Connell continued, "It is precisely this superhuman zeal of the Spanish people that explains why the Rebels and Fascist invaders have never taken Madrid and, in my opinion, never will. They have had an admitted superiority in arms and aviation, which the Span-

Bernard and O'Connell Speak on Madrid Radio to America; Impressed by Spanish People's Fight Against Big Odds.



JOHN T. BERNARD
Minnesota Farmer-Laborite

ish Republic has been unable to purchase because of the so-called non-intervention agreement. They have even had an army of nearly 200,000 Italians to help them. But this superiority in material strength could never equal the great courage of the Spanish people. I fully realize that these observations have been made before by many others. However, seeing and experiencing Madrid is so impressive that it is difficult to talk of anything else. It brings home, as nothing else does, how cruelly betrayed Spanish Democracy has been by the other democratic countries. It brings home, too, the urgent need for changing the cause of that betrayal—the so-called non-intervention policy of the democratic countries.

"It is now obvious that this



JERRY O'CONNELL
Democrat from the State of Montana

policy has done but one thing. It has permitted Fascist Germany and Italy to send unlimited quantities of arms, ammunitions, aviation and even whole brigades to crush liberty and democracy in Spain. After seeing the situation at first hand I, for one, do not believe that this one-sided kind of non-intervention can be permitted to continue. It is an open invitation to the Fascist aggressors to provoke so-called civil wars and then move in with their armed battalions to carry Fascism throughout the world."

O'Connell concluded by saying, "It is time for the democracies, if they are to safeguard the liberty and independence of their people, to exert every legal and economic effort to stop the Fascist aggre-

sors. That is the only way that liberty and democracy, not only here in Spain, but throughout the world can be protected."

FEARS WORLD WAR

Congressman Bernard told his radio listeners how impressed he was in seeing soldiers spending their spare time learning to read and write. "There are actually schools in the front line trenches", he said.

"We have also seen children happy at work and play in new schools, of which there is still a great shortage. The new schools are admirable and compare most favorably with anything I have seen in the United States."

Speaking of the rights denied to the Republic by world powers, he added, "...we sincerely hope that those democratic nations that have thus far refused to accord the legally and democratically elected Government the right to purchase arms and ammunition will soon realize that such a policy directly aids the aggressor forces."

"Continued failure to grant the Spanish Republic its proper rights will, we fear, hasten the coming of a new world war, with all its consequent dangers to liberty and democracy," as President Roosevelt so well pointed out in his Chicago speech.

(Continued on page 2)

BILL LAWRENCE, IN FAREWELL TO AMERICANS IN SPAIN, INTRODUCES COMMISSAR JOHN GATES

Bill Lawrence, popular and hardworking American Political Commissar of the International Brigades Base, has left Spain after a long period of unstinting and fruitful activity to take up important work elsewhere.

His place will be taken by John Gates, who has spent more than a half year on the Cordoba front, as Adjutant Political Commissar of the 86th Brigade. Comrade Gates, who arrived in Spain early in February, reached the Cordoba front on April 1. There he was successively a company commissar, then Political Commissar of the 20th Battalion, and finally the acting Commissar of the entire Brigade. A statement on his activities by Lieutenant-Colonel Morandi, Commander of the 86th Brigade, is printed elsewhere in this issue.

MESSAGE TO MEN

In making his departure known, Comrade Lawrence left the following message to the American comrades in every I. B. unit in Spain:

"I am sorry that I could not say goodbye in person to all of the men with whom I have had occasion to speak during the many months we have been here together. To do this would have meant my remaining here

for at least another month, going from one unit to another. Unfortunately this was impossible, as you will easily understand.

"In leaving I have many things to say — but you already know what they are. All of us — all of us who have done what we came here to do, all of us who have held down our various jobs and held them down well — will know that few words are needed. So I will skip the speeches and make this farewell short and to the point.

OUR RECORD HERE

"The Americans have been here for almost a year. In that time we have earned the praise and the respect not only of the Spanish people, but of the People's Army of Spain and its tireless leaders. We have worked with all of the nationalities which compose the International Brigades, and the best testimony to our value here is that which reflects well not only on us, but on the job which all of us have done here — the fact that after 16 months of war Republican Spain and its organized army are pushing the fight against the enemy in a manner that would have been impossible a half year ago. We, as one small part of the People's Army, should be proud of this fact; we should be more than ever determined to continue the fight to its only logical conclusion — victory for democratic Spain.

CARRY ON!

"If we carry on as we have done in the past, improving slowly but surely in all of our work, I will be more than sa-

THE RECORD OF JOHN GATES AT THE FRONT, AS DESCRIBED BY HIS BRIGADE COMMANDER

86 BRIGADA MIXTA -- MANDO

The adjutant Political Commissar of the 86th Brigade, Comrade JOHN GATES, was one of the organizers of the 20th International Battalion that left the Base at Madrigueras on March 20, 1937.

Named Political Commissar of the 2nd Company (Anglo-American Company), he was the political and organizational spirit of the Company which in all of the battles engaged in at the Pozoblanco front demonstrated great fighting courage and a truly antifascist spirit. The good work of Comrade GATES inculcated a high morale in the men.

In the Company's difficult moments, he was given a special mission by the Military Command that he accomplished with brilliant capacity and a genuine spirit of sacrifice.

Subsequently, he exerted all of his energies in maintaining the antifascist and fighting spirit of the 20th International Battalion which found itself in difficult situations.

He took a leading part in the reconstruction and reorganization of the Battalion after suffering heavy losses in the many battles it engaged in. As a special honor he was proposed as Brigade Political Commissar. While waiting for the official appointment, he was designated Adjutant Political Commissar.

All of the missions that were imposed upon him were satisfactorily carried out. He has gained a high reputation of not only among all of the constituents of the 20th Battalion, but also in Brigade Headquarters and in the Brigade itself.

His transfer to more important work is felt very keenly by the Brigade because we lose in JOHN GATES, a true comrade and an excellent Political Commissar in every aspect.

Brigade Headquarters, Valsequillo, October 19, 1937.

Commander of the Brigade, Acting
Commander of the Sector (Signed),
Lt. Colonel MORANDI, 86 Brigade.



tisfied. And so, I am sure, will we all be. My leaving at this moment was a necessary thing, and it will cause no break in the work here — my successor could not have been better chosen than Comrade John Gates, fresh from almost seven months in the lines.

"If you give him the cooperation which you have given me, I shall be more than satisfied; and so, I believe, will

Comrade Gates. But he will soon see you and speak to you for himself.

"Carry on just as you have carried on, improving always, together with our British and Canadian comrades, as well as with all our other nationalities in the I. B., and with our Spanish fellow-fighters.

"Salud, comrades!"

BILL LAWRENCE

TO THE BRITISH BATTALION

Dear Comrades,

A few days ago I travelled to the front at Quinto in order to explain to the Battalion the reasons for my recall to England. Although we succeeded in getting to the trenches it was not possible in the circumstances to talk with all the comrades either collectively or individually. However we were able to discuss the position with leading comrades and explain to them.

The fact is that in a few weeks time there is to be the bi-annual election of the South



Wales Miners Executive, and it is considered necessary that I return in time for the election. My stay and work here in Spain has been made possible by the consent and approval given by the Executive of which I am a member.

It is understood that the South Wales Miners' Federation is now undoubtedly one of the most powerful forces within the Labour Movement in Britain in the fight for Unity and Aid for Spain. This being so it is very necessary that those who fight for such a policy be again returned to its Executive Council. I therefore trust that my departure to England for this purpose will meet with your whole hearted approval.

I came to work in Spain last April and since that time there have been very big changes particularly within our Battalion. There is no doubt but that the Battalion went through some of its most difficult times during these months. The problems we have had to overcome have for us very important lessons and too much cannot be said of them.

I would therefore like to draw attention to some matters that have been of considerable

importance in these months.

There have been difficulties which are natural in the formation of an army such as ours. Obviously in an army that is being forged in the actual process of struggle, unavoidable organisational weaknesses arise. They arise because not only are we building a new army but we are also building an army of an entirely new character, one which is an expression of the will of the people themselves.

The goal is a conscious goal and the army is the weapon with which it will be attained. There must be no false conceptions about the role of the army, there must be no false conceptions about the duty and the responsibilities of every soldier in its ranks.

In the political commissariat the comrades have an organisation through which criticism and suggestions may be made and in this way there exists the means whereby the comrades can give expression to their problems.

PEOPLE'S ARMY DIFFERENT

These are the two main points in which the Spanish People's Army differs from an imperialist army. First, the aim is one which expresses the will of the people; second, the soldiers within its rank have the possibility of organised discussion on the problems which concern them.

In little else does it differ from an imperialist army. The People's Army must be disciplined and efficient. Commands, no matter how difficult at times it may be to carry them out, must be promptly obeyed and without question. Discipline must be strengthened and there must be a political understanding of the reasons why absolute obedience to the Commanders is a vital necessity for victory.

During this period we have lost several of our most devoted

and heroic comrades. Men like Bill Meredith, Charlie Goodfellow, Bob Elliot and others whose tireless energies have given our British Battalion the proud record it now holds. Their names are synonymous with heroism and self-sacrifice as undying as the prestige and record of British Volunteers in Spain.

With their example as the guide our Battalion cannot go far wrong. It will be disciplined with that self discipline that was theirs; it will be loyal with a devotion that even death cannot destroy; it will be courageous but not foolhardy, and cautious but not cowardly; in a word it will be a Battalion

worthy of the principles and aims of the Popular Army.

The Government forces are now on the offensive and this in itself bears witness to the tremendous growth and development of the Popular Army. We cannot pay too high a tribute to the people of Spain and the Popular Front Government, when we remember that this powerful army has been forged even while, with immense handicaps, the Fascists were being kept at bay. Only the profound faith and determination of a democratic people in the cause they were fighting could have accomplished this. Such an example should sharpen our intelligence and better equip us to participate in the progressive movements of our own countries.

This experience should give

(Continued on page 8)



AN OLD, OLD STORY

The Anglo-French lion, which at the Nyon Conference and in some subsequent roarings showed signs of an unaccustomed vigour, has since had a sad relapse. The beast was metamorphosed into a crab and scuttled back into the crevices of the Non-Intervention Committee. The old trouble began as soon as France and Britain began to make concessions to Mussolini after Nyon. We already knew too well the sort of fruit that grows on this tree of "conciliation" — increased Italian intervention in Spain. This was accompanied by an ominous rattling of the Roman sword in the international scabbard: the sending of more Italian troops to Libya as a friendly reminder to Britain that she has interests in Egypt; Mussolini's blatant solidarity with Japan; the announcement that Italy will not participate in conversations, meetings or conferences without the presence of, or a formal invitation to the third member of the triumvirate against humanity; the Berlin prophecy that "The Europe of tomorrow will be fascist" — the prophet has doubtless inherited his gifts from a gentleman who was going to enter Madrid on a white horse many months ago — and the Berlin threat: "When words do not suffice it is necessary to resort to arms."

The result of it all is that the Non-Intervention Commit-

tee is meeting once again. Apparently it has not been considered necessary to re-christen 40,000 troops in Spain—having in actual fact considerably more than twice that number—and although the problem of a re-christening would provide a magnificent field of action for a new sub-sub-committee.

It is early to forecast the results of this meeting. Italy and Germany are still bargaining with the withdrawal of foreign troops as a weapon to secure belligerent rights for the "Generalissimo." As usual one voice has spoken and will speak firmly and clearly against the manoeuvres and threats of the fascists and the waverings and concessions of the democracies — the voice of the representative of the U. S. S. R. One thing is clear—so long as Britain and France fail to take a firm stand against the aggressors, so long as they allow international law and the rights of the Spanish Republic and the Chinese people to be trampled underfoot in the name of a "peace" which is no peace and only a delay while the fascist pack is gathering for the kill, so long will the shadow of war hang over Europe and the world.

But the waverings cannot last forever. The Governments of France and Britain have to reckon with the people, and the people of France and Britain want to live in a world of pea-

ce and progress, not in a vast powder magazine. Horror and anger at the criminal barbarism of the fascist attack on Spain and China is sinking deep into their hearts, and the Edens and Co. will not always be able to hide in sub-committees.

In his speech on October 5th the President of the United

States said: "The peace, the freedom and the security of 90 % of the population of the world is being jeopardised by the remaining 10 % who are threatening a breakdown of all international order and law, surely the 90 %... can and must find some way to make their will prevail."

A. E.

THE DEATHS OF COMRADES FRY AND WHALLEY

The British Battalion has again suffered the loss of some of its finest comrades in the death of Harold Fry, Battalion Commander and Eric Whalley, Battalion Political Commissar.

Both comrades were killed on October 13th, leading the Battalion in action at Fuentes de Ebro. In the same action we also lost another very good comrade, Sergeant Robinson.

Harold Fry had a consistent and interesting revolutionary record. He was a member of the Communist Party since 1933 and also a member of the Edinburgh Branch of the National Boot and Shoe Operatives. He first came to Spain in December 1936 and was appointed Lieutenant in command of the Machine Gun Company. He was captured by the fascists together with 28 of his men at Jarama on February 18th. The trench they occupied was cut off by the Moors who used the subterfuge of singing the "Internationall" and advancing to our lines with the red front salute giving the impression that they were coming over to our side.

The captured comrades were retained in rebel territory until the end of May, their lives being saved by a German officer who recognised the value of British prisoners as hostages. Despite that all the comrades were tried and Fry was sentenced to death, the trial being conducted at Talavera in Spanish without an interpreter. The local officials refused to accept the responsibility for signing the death warrant and it was sent to Franco for ratification. The sentences were never carried out and comrade Fry and twenty three others were eventually exchanged for fascist prisoners in the Government territory and they returned to Britain on May 28th.

After a brief propaganda tour comrade Fry returned to Spain in August. He became the commander of the British Battalion after the Belchite offensive. His death has robbed the Battalion of an excellent military commander and of a comrade whose whole life had been devoted to the anti-fascist struggle.

Eric Whalley, was a comrade who in the short time he was here had shown excellent possibilities as a political worker. He became Battalion Commissar at the same time as Fry became the Battalion Commander and they were an excellent combination for the military-political leadership of the Battalion.

Whalley's previous history in Britain was of the same active political character. Prior to becoming the Mansfield organiser of the Communist Party he had been a very active member of the I. L. P. and had been the National Chairman of the Affiliation Committee which was formed in the I. L. P. in order to bring about the affiliation of the I. L. P. to the Communist Party. In addition to this he was an active propagandist and had also been prominent in the Unemployed Movement. For two years he had been the Chairman of the Notts and Derby District of the National Unemployed Workers Movement.

He will be mourned, not only by the comrades in the British Battalion but also by the Notts and Derby workers who knew him as an active and intelligent revolutionary worker.

A. D.



TOWARDS THE UNITED FRONT IN BRITAIN

The temper of the British people has been shown, if any showing were needed, by the reply it gave to Mosley, the vicious little imitator of the Rome and Berlin assassins.

Half a million strong, on Sunday, October 4th, it stopped his gang of hirelings, gathered from over Britain, from completing the provocative march through Bermondsey, despite the fierce bludgeonings of the police.

Two nights later, ten thousand people, drawn from every stratum of society, and including even the Archbishop of Canterbury, met at the Albert Hall and strongly condemned the present savagery of Japanese fascism, calling upon the Government to take the lead in taking measures to stop it.

Yet in between these two events, signs of the overwhelming hatred of the people for fascism, the Labour Party Conference was held at Bournemouth and decided by 1,730,000 votes to 373,000 against the formation of a United Anti-fascist Front.

NO DEFEAT

Does this signify a defeat for the progressive forces in the Labour Movement? At first sight it does, yet without minimising the seriousness of the position, an examination of the results of the Conference as a whole show very definite advances towards Unity, and what is more important, laid the basis for further advances in the future.

On the first day of the Conference, an expected triumph was won when the policy of certain reactionary elements in the Trade Union Movement, led by Ernest Bevin, was decisively defeated. Bevin had prepared proposals, which if passed would have meant the domination of the Labour Party Executive by the block vote of the Trade Unions for another year at least. Bevin was anxious to operate this policy, because of the evident desire of the constituency Labour Parties to elect to the Executive certain leaders of the "Left". This desire is shown by

the results of the Executive elections immediately after the defeat of Bevin's proposals, when a larger number of the "Left" were chosen than ever before. Stafford Cripps and Harold Laski, threatened by the Executive with expulsion for their Unity efforts, were chosen as representatives of the rank and file, while George Strauss came very near to election. Others who have fought in the past and still are fighting for Unity, both in the Constituency Section and in



STAFFORD CRIPPS
popular leader of the United Front
movement in Britain

the Women's Section, were also elected.

This advance was the first fruit of the democratisation of the Labour Party.

CAUSES NO DEJECTION

The defeat of the United Front motion, by a greater majority than the rejection of Communist Party affiliation last year, has caused no dejection amongst the fighters for Unity because it is borne in mind that the Miners' Federation, which last year threw its weight on the side of Unity, this year voted against. This was due to some doubtful measures adopted by the Federation leadership at the annual conference held in July, when 259,000 votes were cast for Unity and 280,000 against, to swing over the small vote of the Derbyshire miners against Unity. If this had not been done, a small majority

would have been registered for Unity, and the 500,000 miners' votes would have brought the vote at the Labour Party Conference up to 300,000. It is generally acknowledged that the vote registered did not tally with the real feeling of the Conference.

In reporting on the Conference, William Mellor makes the following comments.

HALL PACKED

"To say that there is no despondency or sense of defeat in the minds of the 'Left' is merely to underline a fact. No one who was present at the Unity meeting in the Bournemouth Town Hall on Tuesday night could for one moment think that the Bournemouth Conference was the eclipse of the 'Left'. The Hall was packed to capacity. The audience was not merely enthusiastic, but quietly convinced of the rightness of the case. And it listened to speeches that were worthy of the occasion. Above all, to a speech from Aneurin Bevin, that not even the enemies of the Unity Campaign could forbear to cheer."

The Bournemouth Conference has opened to those who support the Unity Campaign opportunities which will not be thrown away. Within the Labour Party the fight which the Unity Campaign has urged upon the rank and file and leadership will be strengthened and sustained.

O. C. G.



HAROLD LASKI
professor and champion of united action among workers' organizations

W.P.A. TEACHERS
FIRMLY SUPPORT
LOYALIST SPAIN

Dear Brother Editor:

I wish it were possible for you to be in our Union hall when the announcement is made that the bundle of "Volunteers" has arrived. There is a rush for them that speaks more than a million words can of the solidarity felt by our members for the cause of the Spanish people. The article "Trotskyist Traitors" in the Sept. 13th issue aroused great interest. For in our Union these disciples of Trotsky have carried on their disruptive tactics to the point where membership meetings instead of being occasions for discussion of plans for safeguarding and retaining our jobs were turned into demagogic harangues and petty wranglings on their part. But the members finally got wise to them and now they tread softly.

Eagerness to read the "Volunteer" is not our only display of solidarity. We have given the following concrete aid:

1. Fifty-three members went over to fight. Some have already given their lives. Others like L. L. who has just been made a commander in the I. B. still fight on.

2. Two Thousand Dollars has been raised. Part of it is being used to purchase an ambulance in honor of Joe Strela and we hope to send it in the early fall. The rest of the money has gone into the cigarette and comfort fund.

3. On September 8th, a special Spain issue of our Union publication was printed.

4. On Sept. 24th, a Spain rally was held at which time our membership turned out in full force. And what a success it was. For as one member expressed himself, "I felt like packing up and going right over there".

We won't stop at the above. For we have learned that your fight is our fight too. And until Fascism is driven out of Spain our activities will not cease.

A. S.

THE ART TREASURES OF MADRID

The front line trenches can be seen from any tall building in Madrid. It takes 15 minutes to walk from the Hotel Victoria in the middle of the city to the Casa del Campo, and another ten minutes to reach the trench that looks across 60 feet of sloping, scrub-



MILITIAMEN carrying art works to a safe place before fascist shells or bombs find their mark

oak field at the earthworks of the Moors. Each day the fascists shell Madrid, and each day a few die as a result of the shelling. But life in the city continues, a little more tense, a little more difficult, yet buoyantly, hopefully.

Madrileños are proud of their city, proud of its history, proud of its art treasures. When airplanes first began methodically to smash sections of Madrid, when shells first began to slaughter people in the streets, Madrileños thought of two things — barricades, so that the fascists could never enter Madrid, and protection for the art treasures of Spain.

PAINTINGS SALVAGED

The Junta Central del Tesoro Artístico Nacional was formed to save paintings, sculpture, fine furniture, pottery and church ornaments that are the pride of Madrid and Spain. Even as the untrained troops fell back from Toledo in the bloody first days of the war, desperate men found time to remove valuable paint-

ings before they evacuated towns and to send them to Madrid for safe keeping. Peasants and workers knew that all art work must be preserved for future enjoyment and instruction when Spain again won peace.

The commission in charge of salvaging artistic works had an immense task. Not only must paintings and other art pieces be stored in safe places, but they must first be catalogued, often cleaned, and then carefully packed.

The work began and has been carried on with Madrid under siege. The director and his staff are all experts, former professors of art and often artists themselves. The director said to us, "Sometimes I hunger to return to my own painting. But this work is so important that now I must sacrifice my own work to the far larger problem of preserving Spanish art." In the Museo Arqueológico Nacional, the vast exhibition rooms have been reinforced with beams to prevent the ceiling falling if the building is hit by a shell. On sturdy shelves, almost as wide and long as the rooms, are ranged thousands of valuable treasures — furniture and china, gilt clocks and row upon row of saints, censures, vestments, crosses, images, all of which formerly adorned Catholic churches. The most valuable are packed in sand to prevent shattering. Each object is carefully inventoried and labelled, even the tiny statuettes that formerly decorated a mantle in some manufacturer's home. And still the treasures pour in, new books are found that must be wrapped and crated, peasants ride fifty and one hundred kilometers in their donkey carts to deliver a small article, because "it is from the house of a big landowner who left at the beginning of the invasion and it looks to us in our village to have value and beauty, though of course we know nothing of these things."

Madrid is admittedly not a safe place for such treasures. But it was impossible to eva-

cuate all objects simultaneously. The immediate problem was to move the most famous paintings, particularly from the Prado and other important



YOUNG MILITIAMAN dusting art pieces

collections. Paintings by El Greco, Titian, Velazquez, Goya, Tintoretto and many others were carefully boxed in fire-proofed material, slowly and laboriously moved to Valencia. Here they were placed in strong buildings in which the temperature could be carefully regulated. For a brief time, some paintings were stored in the vaults of the Bank of Spain in Madrid to keep them from harm during the bombardments and until they could be taken from the city. The damp vaults quickly caused mold to attack the paintings. The El Grecos and other canvases had to be cleaned—and

in the cleaning the dirt and superimposed varnish disappeared with the mold. Paintings took on their original life and color, as though they had been created yesterday. The rescue work by experts had taught the commission and art connoisseurs everywhere new values in the paintings they had so long admired and studied. As a result, at present before paintings are stored, they are carefully cleaned. A legacy of the war will be the complete cataloguing of Spanish art, the cleaning and revivifying of valuable paintings, and the rescuing of them from what was often the ignorant abuse of private owners or the clergy.

In addition, new art treasures have been discovered. A wealthy dilettante had hidden a fine painting of the Flemish artist, Quentin Massys, in his house, for his sole enjoyment (and the possible increase in market value). Another collector had falsely labelled a painting by the German, Lucius Cranach, as an Albrecht Durer, and had kept the picture in his house where no one could see it except his few guests. But of even greater significance



YOUNG MILITIAMEN helping to list and catalogue Spain's famous paintings



BARRICADES near the end of one of Madrid's main streets

ce was the discovery of a lost and extremely valuable El Greco that had hung on the walls of a local court house. This small canvas, representing the Shepherds Worshipping the Christ Child, had been considered irreparably lost. It is an example of the greatest Spanish painter's work during El Greco's finest period.

FASCIST SLANDERS CHECKED

The fascists of course have realized that the government's intense campaign to preserve the art of Spain is apt to win sympathy from the outside world. To offset this sympathy, the fascists have spread stories that the government sought to attract aerial bombardment by placing artillery on the roof of the Prado; that the government sacked churches and destroyed religious art; that the government looted the houses of the wealthy who had deserted to the fascist lines and destroyed the treasures. But such propaganda is deliberately and demonstrably false. It was the fascists who destroyed the valuable collection of the Duke of Alba by bombing the palace. No artillery ever was placed on the Prado roof or even near it—by testimony of every art lover in

Madrid and by written deposition of the Prado's director. Religious art has been collected and stored with special care.

While the struggle for existence goes on, the art of Spain is lovingly and meticulously guarded. While fascist shells daily explode and kill in the city streets, the careful, speedy, intelligent care of Spanish culture has become the primary concern of the people who are suffering and dying in or-



THIS is the way Madrileños "destroy" art. The famous statue of Gibeles in one of Madrid's main squares protected with a thick wall of brick and concrete to resist fascist bombardments.

der to preserve their liberty and their cultural heritage. The struggle behind the lines is no less intense, no less efficient, no less important to the Republican government than the struggle to press toward military victory. H. M.

ITALIAN CASUALTIES

Although the Italian fascists have tried to keep it a secret, it is calculated that of those repatriated to their native land from rebel Spain recently, 7,000 had been wounded; another 7,000 went home on account of illness.

The official figures from Rome indicate that until September, there have been 1,226 Italian fascists killed here. The real figures, it is known, are considerably higher.

The Italian people are learning the cost of Mussolini's aims.

Formation of Anti-Fascist People's Front

A very significant event in the course of politics and the war is the formation of a general all-embracing Antifascist People's Front in Valencia. This has been preceded by similar set-ups in Aragon, Lerida, and Alicante and it is to be hoped that it will be followed by more all over loyal Spain. It will be remembered that not long ago an antifascist youth alliance was formed to which all the youth organizations subscribed. This is paving the way for that complete unity of all antifascist forces so necessary for winning the war.

The Antifascist People's Front in Valencia was formed at a meeting on October 7th and absolutely all parties and organizations subscribed to its resolutions to support and cooperate with the Government without reserve and avoid all divisions in its ranks.

The representatives of the syndical organizations and political parties—U. G. T.-C.N.T. (the two big trade unions), Syndicalist Party, Communist Party, Union Republicans, Valencian de Esquerra and Valencianista de Esquerra (both regionalist republican parties), Socialist Party, F. A. I. (Anarchists), and Left Republican Party—with the object of coordinating their activities for the war and social advancement, met and agreed upon the following:

1st.—To end campaigns on the part of speakers or the press which might prejudice antifascist unity or attacks on syndical organizations or political parties which compose the Popular Antifascist Front.

2nd.—To respect and help the work of economic-industrial transformation effected by the workers and their syndicates or collectives, within the rules which are fixed for this purpose by the Government.

3rd.—To begin a campaign on the part of speakers and the press to keep up the morale in the rear and make sure that the sufferings of the antifascist people in consequence of the war shall not be a field

to be profited by the agents of Fascism.

4th.—To cooperate for the greater efficacy of the policy of prices and food supplies begun by the Government.

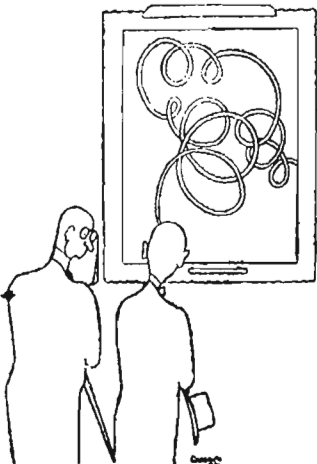
5th.—To purify the syndical and political organizations, expelling or refusing admission to any individual who has not thoroughly proved his fidelity to the antifascist cause, which we are all defending.

6th.—To encourage the enlargement of the People's Army, for the exclusive service of the antifascist cause.

7th.—To study the numerical proportions of such local organizations as might be formed, by a combination of syndical organizations and political parties, composing the Popular Antifascist Front, suggesting this proposal to the necessary organizations.

8th.—To cooperate for the greater efficacy of the governments of the Popular Antifascist Front.

In the constitution of the Popular Antifascist Front, we reaffirm our unshakeable adherence to the legitimate Government of the Republic, giving a fraternal greeting to all the comrades who are fighting on the battlefield for the liberty and independence of Spain, as also a tender remembrance for all those fallen for the antifascist cause.



"To me, it looks like the British Foreign Policy."

Congressmen Pledge Support to Spain

(Continued from page 1.)

"On our return to the United States we shall do everything within our powers to inform our congressional colleagues and the American people of the urgent necessity for granting to the Spanish people the aid they are justly entitled to by international law. This can be done simply by distinguishing between the aggressor and the victim. To do less is not neutrality."

LAUDS REPUBLIC

"The Spanish Government", he pointed out, is also doing marvellous work in the matter of preserving art treasures. Before coming here, I had read many stories about the destruction of art works. That some art works have been destroyed cannot be denied. But certainly the Spanish Republic was not responsible. It was the bombs and shells of the Rebels. There is the best proof, on the contrary, that the Government and the Spanish people are doing everything possible to protect and preserve all those art treasures that have not already been destroyed by Rebel bombing. Only this afternoon I spent considerable time going through one of the storehouses where the Government is carefully storing and indexing works of art. Here in the city of Madrid sandbags and other protections have been placed around the statues in the public parks to prevent their destruction by bombing or shelling.

"I must say that I have been deeply impressed by all this. It is an inspiring sight to see an heroic people building schools and homes and taking care of its art treasures while fighting against a brutal fascist invasion. I have seen with my own eyes that the Spanish Republic determined to prevent the destruction of the independence and democracy of the Spanish people by Franco, Hitler and Mussolini. And it is so confident of winning that it is going ahead building a better Spain for the day when peace and democracy here will be once again secure."

DISTINGUISHING UNIFORM SIGNS FOR COMMISSARS

For some time there have been Commissars who have been wearing insignia as Commissars of War which do not correspond to those fixed by the Government.

In all circumstances and at all times our Commissars should be an example of discipline. They should neither wear nor allow others to wear



insignia distinct from those recognized by the Government.

These insignia are the following:

A five-pointed star in a circle, as the distinguishing mark of a Commissar. Under this should be worn:

A red stripe for a Company Commissar.

Two red stripes for a Battalion Commissar.

Three red stripes for a Brigade Commissar.

One gold stripe for a Division Commissar.

GALLO

Commissar-Inspector of the International Brigades.

TO THE BRITISH BATTALION

(Continued from page 3.)

us confidence for the future. Even closer relationships must be developed between the British in the Battalion and the Spanish comrades. In training, in reserve, on rest, in battle, there must be no separation by nationalities. We must see the fight as one of a people for whom national barriers do not exist.

Without this close cohesion of all sections, companies, the Battalion cannot be an effective fighting unit. We have therefore to remove bad habits of the past and attain a more intimate knowledge and relationship with our Spanish comrades. With such unity in the command and throughout the Battalion every order and command will be responded to by a united and powerful Battalion.

Our Battalion has earned a name on the battlefronts of Spain of which we can be justly proud. We have taken part in the most decisive battles in the war, and contributed much toward producing the present favorable position for the Government forces. The most decisive battles are just ahead. It is our duty here and at home to continue to assist our Spanish comrades in every possible way until final victory has been won.

sible way until final victory has been won.

With this as our aim we shall be able to continue and accomplish our historic tasks here in Spain, and at the same time inspire the people of Britain into decisive action alongside the peoples of the world to crush Fascism and reaction wherever it raises its head.

Comrades, I am proud to have associated with the men of

IN MEMORIAM



JOE DALLET

Political Commissar of the
MACKENZIE - PAPINEAU
BATTALION

Killed in action at Fuentes
de Ebro.

OCTOBER 13 - 1937



THE SOVIET UNION does not want war, but these sailors are ready to defend their land of Socialism against any imperialist threat.



our Battalion. Their example will long be my inspiration in my revolutionary work wherever it leads me. I am proud to have contributed a little to its achievements and pledge to do my utmost in the same cause at all times and wherever necessary.

Salud.

BILL PAYNTER

DIANA, (U. G. T.) - Larra, 6 - MADRID



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades ★

All The Peoples Of The World Are On The Side Of The International Brigades And The Spanish

Republican

Government



**To Sr. Prieto, Minister of
the National Defense**

The officers and representatives of the Garrison of Albacete met together under the Presidency of the Under-Secretary of War, Lieutenant Colonel Bolaños, to celebrate the first anniversary of the arrival of the Volunteers of the International Brigades. They greet the illustrious Minister of National Defence who with his untiring organisational activity and leadership is leading the Spanish Army to glorious victory.



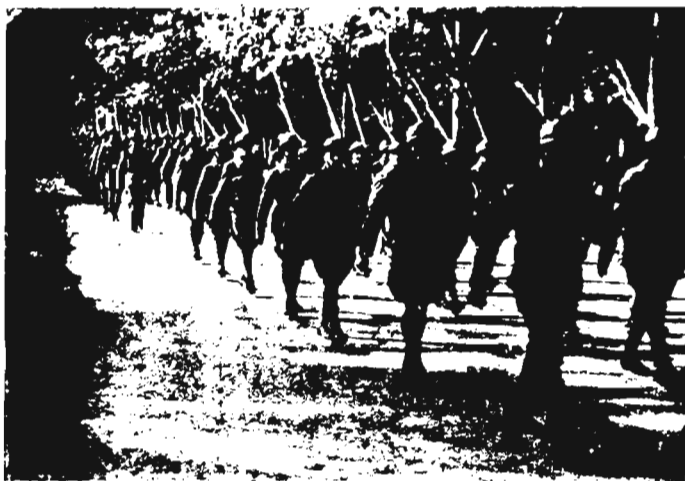
**To Don Manuel Azaña,
President of the Re-
public**

The officers and representatives of the Garrison of Albacete, met together under the Presidency of the Under-Secretary of War, Lieutenant Colonel Bolaños, to celebrate the first anniversary of the arrival of the Volunteers of the International Brigades in Spain, send to the illustrious President of all the Spaniards the expression of their admiration and reaffirm their unshakable support for the cause of the Liberty and Independence of Spain.

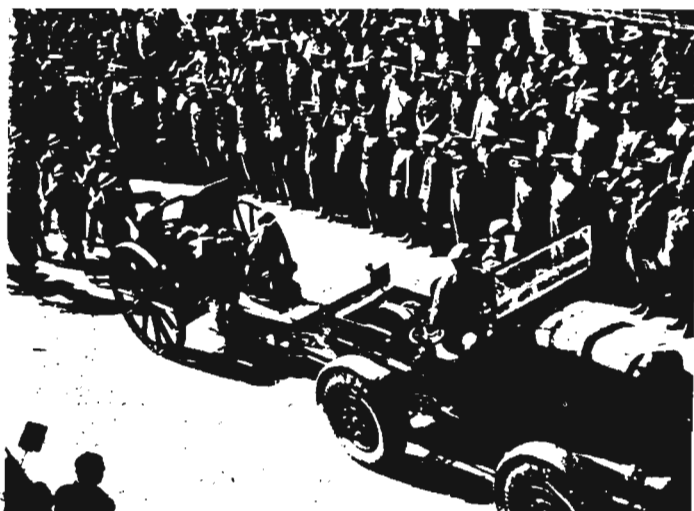


**To Sr. Negrin, President
of the Council**

The officers and representatives of the Garrison of Albacete met together under the Presidency of the Under-Secretary of War, Lieutenant Colonel Bolaños to celebrate the first anniversary of the arrival of the International Brigades. They greet the President of the People's Front Government which with its firm and determined policy of the unity of all honest Spaniards will lead Republican Spain to victory over Fascism.



A VIEW of the parade of the troops.



OUR Artillery.



A GRATEFUL tribute to our dead.

IN Albacete A W niversary O Lowered In

Albacete was bejewelled with banners, posters and placards. The whole population was celebrating October 17th the anniversary of the arrival in Spain of the first Volunteers for Liberty with a magnificent and enthusiastic fête. The Park, filled with many-coloured triumphal arches, rang from early morning with the cheers of the crowd. All the centres of the parties and organisations were adorned with banners and streamers and slogans affirming solidarity with the International Brigades. The balconies of the official buildings were ablaze with colour.

The whole town lined the streets and the great avenue where the troops were to parade. This vast mass formed a living wall of people who cheered themselves hoarse greeting the international fighters, a river of tireless hands from which rose great bursts of applause.

The military review began at 11 a. m. The troops were inspected by the Under-Secretary for Defence, Lieutenant Colonel Bolaños, representing the Government; the Under-Commissar General of War, Comrade Pretel; the Military Governor of Albacete, Lieutenant Colonel Mangada; the Civil Governor, Comrade Cazorla; the Commissar-Inspector of our International Brigades, Comrade Gallo; and the Commander of the Base, Comrade Bielov. The Madrid People's Front had sent a delegation consisting of its Secretary and Comrade Ovidio Salcedo of the Socialist Party.

The C. N. T. had sent a telegram expressing its warm support of the commemoration and apologising for being unable to be represented at the ceremony. The Delegation of the Spanish Communist Party consisted of Comrades "Pasionaria", Delicado and Checa.

Magnificently equipped, the different units of the International Brigades paraded in impressive order. It was a great demonstration of strength, unity and discipline. The sight was breathtaking.

The Park appeared geometrically divided by rifles.

The Republican flags floated in the breeze and the bugles gleamed in the light. The various sections parade: infantry, artillery, assault battalions, services of the rear. The people's emotion cannot be described. There was a ceaseless storm of applause. Our volunteers did not hide their enthusiasm as they passed before the Spanish flag.

At the end of the military parade Lieutenant Colonel Bolaños, Under-Commissar Pretel, the Military Governor Cazorla, Lieutenant-Colonel Mangada, and the Inspector of the International Brigades, Comrade Gallo, spoke to the people. With deep feeling they greeted the anniversary of the International Brigades. They spoke of the meaning of the solidarity of the peoples and they expressed their unshakable confidence in victory. In the name of the International Brigades Comrade Gallo made a moving speech which we print on another page. He ended by addressing stirring "vivas" to the People's Front Government, to the Army of the Republic and to the International Brigades, which were taken up by the crowd with long applause.

A banquet followed at which all the leading personalities were present, together with the officers who had come from all the different Units. Lieutenant Colonel Bolaños made a brief speech of greeting on behalf of the Government and its Army and expressed his

great satisfaction of being among comrades all inspired with the same spirit and the same determination. Then Lieutenant Colonel Bielov addressed the Government, the parties and organisations of the People's Front, and the Republican Army. He showed that the organisation of victory demanded the ceaseless creation of reserves and the maintenance of enthusiasm and discipline. His entire speech was a demonstration of confidence in the leaders of Republican Spain whom he presented as men capable of inspiring the final struggle against fascism. The



LIEUTENANT COLONEL BOLASOS, representing the Minister of National Defence. On his right is comrade Pretel, Under-Commissar General.

THE HUMAN tide pours through the streets...

Under-Commissar Pretel then paid a tribute to "Pasionaria", the symbol of the glorious struggle of the Asturian fighters.

He concluded with an appeal for the rapid realisation of unity and proposed the sending of the telegrams which we publish on the first page.

"Paslonaria" greeted the International Brigades in the name of the Spanish wives and mothers who cannot express their gratitude to those who have come to defend the liberties of the world on Spanish soil. She paid a tribute to the loyal military men who unreservedly supported the Republican cause, who joined with people's fighters and mingled with them whole-heartedly. She recalled the first days of the struggle, when the Antifascists had only

their faith and their enthusiasm, together with a handful of officers who had remained faithful, and when in their need they had made an anguished appeal to the democratic governments.

"Only the people in all the corners of the earth heard that call", she said, "But Spain will raise in her heart an eternal monument to them!"

The afternoon was occupied by a magnificent meeting which took place in the Bull-ring, and was preceded by a splendid parade of the International Brigades. The Secretary of the Madrid People's Front greeted the International Brigades in the name of all Antifascists, and pointed to the Bri-

(Continued on page 15.)



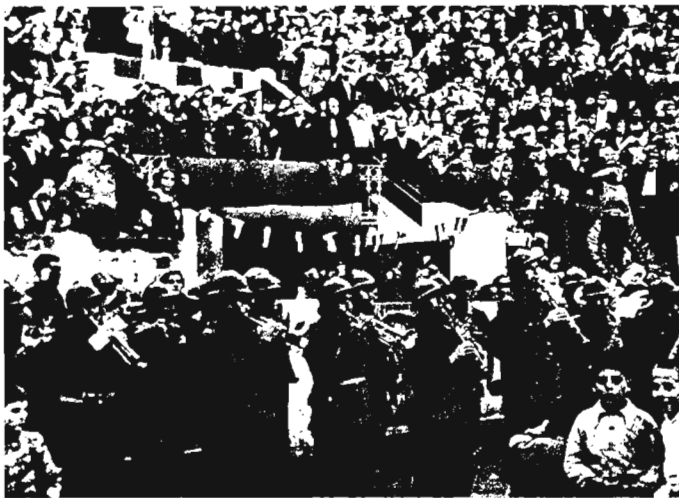
Left: Comrade Pretel, Com-
missar for War.

Left center: Crowd salutes as
National Anthem is played.

Right center: The Medical
service is well represented.

Left bottom: A view of the
endless demonstration.

Right bottom: Workers,
peasants, soldiers cheer as
Internationals parade.



"The International Brigades Will Be Worthy Of The Glorious Epic Of The Spanish People"

Declares Comrade GALLO In Moving Speech

The Under-Secretary of State for National Defence.

Political and military leaders of the Spanish Republic.

Comrades and Volunteers.

A year ago the first volunteers of our glorious International Brigades arrived in Albacete.

They came from all corners of the globe, from all sections of political opinion, inspired with the same enthusiasm, with the same determination: to fight at the side of their brave Spanish comrades who had already made immortal history.

They had only one aim: to put themselves at the disposition of the People's Front Government, to fight under the orders of its General Staff.

They knew that the cause of the liberty and the independence of Spain was their own cause, the cause of all advanced and progressive humanity.

A year has gone by.

A year of battles, victories and sacrifice.

A year in the course of which the Spanish people, under the leadership of its Government, closely united around its glorious Army, has written epic pages in the annals of the peoples.

A year during which international solidarity has expressed itself in the sublime sacrifice and heroism of thousands of our volunteers.

In the trenches of Madrid and Jarama, in the battlefields of Guadalajara and Pozoblanco, in the irresistible offensives of Brunete and Belchite, the Spanish People's Army has barred the way to fascism, has inflicted sharp defeats on Hitler and Mussolini.

It is our pride and our honour to have been able to play our part, shoulder to shoulder with our Spanish comrades, in such great battles: to have been able, in the trenches of liberty, to save the honour of our countries betrayed by fascist dictators or by hesitant and feeble Governments.

In the struggle and in battle we have been able to learn great lessons from our contact with our Spanish comrades: lessons which will help us and our peoples in the

struggle in our own countries.

We have been able to learn the great political lesson which all the Spanish people, which all its leaders have given to the whole world:

--In face of reaction it is necessary to unite in a block of steel all the forces of the people who, alone, can defeat reaction and foreign invasion.

We have learned how it has been possible, thanks to the sacrifice of the people and the ability of the leaders, to call up, almost from nothing, a new Army able to defeat the best Divisions of Spanish and International Fascism.

We have learnt that in the fight to the death between reaction and progress, between slavery and liberty, there is no sacrifice, no heroism which is beyond a people ready, like the Spanish people, to conquer or die.

Spanish comrades, Representatives of the Government and Military Commanders.

We thank you for the immense help which you are giving to the cause of the liberty and independence of all peoples.

We thank you for all that you are teaching the world in the struggle against fascism.

We shall know how to profit by your lessons.

Comrades, Volunteers for Liberty.

Delegations from our five glorious Brigades.

Raise high your banners of battle and victory!

They are the banners of the glorious resistance at University City and Las Rozas.

They are the banners of Teruel and Lopera, of the Almeria and Jarama Fronts.

Raise high your banners, which saw the enemy in flight at Pozoblanco and Guadalajara.

Raise your banners of the glorious offensives of Guadarrama and Belchite.

Your banners are fanned with the breath of our fallen heroes, of Beimler and Lucasz, Parovic and Picelli, Ralph Fox and De Brougères.

Your banners are the hope and the pride of our peoples. They are the symbols of the heroic epic through which we have lived here in Spain.

What do they say, our banners, waving in the breeze of glory and victory:

—People of Spain.

The International Volunteers, your adopted sons, will be worthy of you and of your magnificent epic.

They have only one ambition: to be able to count always among the bravest and most disciplined soldiers in your great Army.

We want to act so that our wives and our children can be proud of us, as every Spanish wife and child can be proud of husband and father fighting on the fronts of freedom.

Forward, Spanish comrades, fighters of all lands!

Forward, always united as one man, to defeat fascism and inaugurate an era of peace and brotherhood among all peoples.

Long live our glorious People's Army!

Long live the People's Front Government!

Long live its representatives and delegates at the anniversary of our glorious International Brigades!



OUR COMMISSAR INSPECTOR of the International Brigades, Comrade Gallo. On his left Lieutenant Colonel Bielov, Commander of the Base.



The International Fighters For Freedom Show

By ANDRÉ MARTY

"They marched towards sunrise and sunset, to south and to north.
Old guns weighing down on their shoulders, those heroes went forth.
Passing rivers and hills,
Without rest, without sleep, ragged and hungry,
They went joyous and proud...
And a glorious freedom burned bright through their thoughts."

VICTOR HUGO.

Such were the soldiers of the Year II of the great French Revolution. Such were the Volunteers for Liberty in the past twelve months. Volunteers who had hastened to Republican Spain from all countries in the world.

A year has passed... already! So many great events have filled these twelve months. October 14th. Railwaymen, workmen and country people in a little town which was exposed to all the inclemencies of the weather saw the arrival of some hundreds of men, talking French, German, Italian, Polish and Bulgarian. The first Volunteers... Nineteen days later a complete Brigade started for Madrid, and five days afterwards a second took the same road. The International Brigades were entering the Spanish people's great war of emancipation...

1.

WHY THEY ARE THERE

There were millions of workers who, from the first day of the fascist rebellion in Spain, felt a lump in their throats and a stab in their hearts. In Paris and in New York, in Brussels and Prague, from the Arctic Ocean to the Rio de la Plata, over the whole surface of the immense Soviet Union, the workers, and all who valued freedom, were living through the anguish of the July days. They greeted the rapid victory of the workers and peasants of Spain, who within a week had freed all the big towns and most of the villages from the bloody fascist horde and the traitorous, perjured generals.

There was painful anxiety again when Mola's Army was going to

come down through the Sierra towards Madrid. Then fresh enthusiasm; the battalions of militiamen, all volunteers, hastily formed and hastily armed, were barring the road against the fanatical *requetes*. Already dozens of brave military and political leaders were rising from the mass. The loyal Republican officer and the worker had both become commanders of militia of battalions. There were "Campesino", Riquelme, the Galan's, Ortega and many others barring the way against the criminal generals and their profess-



ANDRÉ MARTY

sional officers. Then there was stupefaction and rage. While fighting planes of the Italian air force came down in the Mediterranean and in Oran, terrible proofs of one of the greatest acts of brigandage that history has known, the

French and British Governments, on the pretext of holidays -- which are still proceeding -- carried out a *de facto* withdrawal of their ambassadors from Spain. A moral blow which would have been very heavy for the fighting antifascist people and their Government if the great and powerful Soviet Union had not then declared before the world its entire solidarity with Madrid. While the Basque Country was being attacked by a rebel army which daily received more arms, planes, tanks, Italian and German officers, and then whole military units, the democratic Governments of France and Britain were organising the boycott of the lawful Government under the name of non-intervention, and the United States Government was declaring itself neutral as between the murderer and his victim! It was clear that the most reactionary elements of



THE INTERNATIONALS are now the Spanish people's brothers.

That The Path To Victory Lies In Antifascist Unity



E MARTY



finance capital in France, Britain and America wanted the defeat of the Spanish people and their Government. Some individuals were explaining that it was necessary to avoid 'provoking' those in Berlin and Rome who were pulling the strings of the Burgos puppets, and these same individuals were claiming that this was the only possible attitude to adopt to defend peace.

But the workers at least had not forgotten Mussolini and his blood thirsty gangs, and still less had they forgotten Hitler and February, 1933. They knew that the fascist wolves were untamable and that whoever offered them his hand would leave them his arm. If the brutes' teeth had been broken at the time of Abyssinia, it would not have been tearing at Spain today. Capitulation in the face of the fascists had let loose the war in Spain... while waiting for the next to follow. And so we came to August 14th and the massacre of Badajoz. Already taught by February, 1934, French workers — ex-soldiers — hastened to Irun and Catalonia. Later they formed the Paris Centuria. The Gastone Sozzi Centuria — Italians and Poles — was formed at Madrid and the German Antifascists grouped themselves in the Thaelmann Centuria in Catalonia.

Irun fell for the lack of the trucks of munitions from Barcelona, which were held up by France. Then there was San Sebastian. *Talavera!* Non-intervention was victorious; foreign invasion was pouring its forces into the valley of the Tagus. That magnificent people, suffering fresh reverses every week, did not capitulate. They did not want fascism. With each fresh retreat, fresh battalions of volunteers set out singing. Their rifles were old and they had very few bullets. Too often it was with their own bodies that they barred the way against an enemy daily better armed. But already a great military force is rising; the Fifth Regiment of People's Militia. New leaders are coming forward: Castro, Lister, Mo-



A minute's silence.

desto, Carlos, Cartón... sometimes officers, sometimes commissars. They are both commanders and agitators. In this way 80,000 combatants with military organisation were given to the Republic in five months. Throughout the whole world thousands of workers, and hundreds of free spirited men understood what the democratic Governments, in complete opposition to the peoples they claimed to represent, did not want to know. Franco's victory meant a new impetus to fascism all over the world, and above all in France. Franco's victory, because of decisive economic and strategic positions meant a fearful war speedily launched by Hitler and Mussolini, brought to bay by economic bankruptcy. It meant war devastating the loveliest countries in Europe, machine gunning, burning and gassing millions of human beings from the cradle to the grave.

Those workers, those exiles from fascism hunted down in all countries, realised that what was at stake in the Spanish struggle was the liberty of their own countries and of the whole world.

Toledo fell September 25th. There was only a swarm of militiamen before Madrid. The blockade of Republican Spain, against all the principles of human justice, after handing over Irun to the bloodthirsty Jesuit Mola, was going to throw Madrid, with its

magnificent people and its art treasures, into the hands of the fascist bandits, drunk with blood — and the Madrid women were already promised as the spoils of war to the sadistic mercenaries of Quiapo de Llano.

Then in all countries ordinary workers rose in thousands. They left their wives, their children and their parents. Well-known surgeons and famous writers left "good jobs" Forced in the past by capitalism to become experienced soldiers, to defend its interests, they at all events understood what the people of Spain needed to defend their interests, to defeat a rebel army which was already being transformed into an army of invasion. It was not heroism; it was arms, military equipment, and the men who knew how to use them and understood the very complicated technique of modern warfare. That is why they hastened to offer their lives together with their military knowledge. The highest example of what international solidarity can be...

Blackshirt and army divisions under orders, Capronis, Henkels and their crews were arriving ceaselessly on Franco's side. Then the Spanish Republic, which would have crushed the rebels in a few weeks if the latter had relied on their own resources, accepted these "Internationals", workers, peasants and intellectuals.

It armed them with difficulty with rifles of fifteen different types and with a few old machine guns of about ten different types.

The Paris Commune had its small International battalion and so did Dombrowski. The little "International Legion" fought under the banners of the Russian Revolution. From the workers of all countries the Spanish Revolution received International Brigades with all their services, including aviation. A small, a very small military force. But a heroic living proof of the real solidarity with the Spanish people who were being treated like pariahs by the democratic Governments which were going against the will of their peoples. Thus the mere presence of the International Brigades was a most powerful moral factor; so powerful that thousands of brave Spanish women wept with emotion as the Volunteers passed through many of the villages in the Peninsula.

2.

THOUSANDS, UNITED AS ONE

The International Brigades have given valuable help in the magnificent antifascist struggle of the Spanish people. Madrid on November 7th, Cerro de los Angeles, Teruel on November 13th, at Lopera on the Cordova Front, at Jarama — each of these names marks the date when one of the international forces moved into the line, not to mention the different units sent to various decisive points every week for four months. Ceaselessly united in comradeship with the new Spanish Brigades, they broke the desperate attacks of the fascists or delivered heavy counter-attacks against them. Day by day, with great organisational effort, the international units were being constituted under the attentive, benevolent and fatherly direction of the President of the Cortes, Martinez Barrios, who was charged by the Government with forming the Brigades — those basic units of the new Republican Ar-

my. All the complicated organizational structure of modern warfare was coming into being and developing — from a road transport service with its workshops and a modern medical service to radio and anti-aircraft defence transmissions. In line with all this, great modern hospitals were being formed and the political section was growing up with its press, communiqué and literature services in twelve languages and its network of politically conscious soldiers.

The heroism of the International Volunteers. We have said little about it. How can one speak of it after having seen Madrid? Madrid in October, when Getafe and Carabanchel fell — which meant that from one moment to another the enemy might burst into the heart of the capital. Madrid, which all the military attaches of the capitalist world declared to be lost. Madrid, whose last hours the reactionary journalists, in the pay of Hitler and Mussolini, were intending to describe. But Madrid, whose working men and women took up the challenge and barred their streets with the famous streamers: "Madrid shall be the grave of Fascism." Madrid, whose people rose in one mass at the appeal of the "Junta de Defensa", uniting all the parties and trade unions. There was Miaja, the old general loyal to the Republic — and Antón, the young Commissar, a revolutionary worker — at the helm night and day, never weakening.

The decimated battalions were reorganised. New ones were formed. They were all there, the young and old commanders and commissars of the Fifth Regi-

ment. The building workers were digging trenches. Women were making bombs and cartridge pouches. The streets were barricaded. Tank traps were dug. Children piled up paving stones and stretched out barbed wire. They worked at night in the darkness and during the day under fascist bombing planes. When the Moroccans appeared at the Manzanares between two bursts of shrapnel, the "No pasaran" of the old and the new soldiers of the people rang out. "No pasaran". They have not passed, and Hitler's snout still bleeds for it. And for 2 months the magnificent people of that city which numbers its dead in thousands old and young, women and children have worked and fought, trained and organised under the bombs and the shrapnel. They have cleared away the ruins of their houses and begun to build the new Madrid. After that, how is one to speak of the heroism of the International Volunteers, when however great it was — and it was great — we have seen every day so many magnificent actions and when we have seen this magnificent people of Spain who for the last fifteen months have preferred "death standing to life kneeling", a noble appeal to the world struggle against fascism. And so we have forgotten to make known the innumerable examples of the heroism of international soldiers — old revolutionaries and young antifascist fighters. Today it will be enough to say: from the Casa del Campo to Andújar, from Guadalajara to Belchite, from Almería to Jarama, there is not a battle in which the Internationals have not taken part.

Nevertheless it is not the heroism which the International Brigades have taught the Spanish people. That has not been necessary. The Spanish people have enough and to spare, and in fighting a fascist army better armed, and organised in Italy and Germany, heroism is not enough.

The Spanish Republic would have been crushed long ago if it had not put a great People's Army into the field, firmly disciplined and led by a unified command. The International Brigades have been one of the foundations of this new army, thanks to their high technical qualifications and their firm discipline. That is one of the essential services which the international Volunteers have rendered the Spanish Republic.

On the fascist side there is a mass of picked foreign troops — blackshirts and regular Italian divisions, tank divisions and aviation squadrons from the German and Italian armies, regiments of legionaries Moroccans — all these have invaded that country, and without their help Franco and Gil Robles would be powerless to hold it under their dictatorship. They make up for the deficiencies of an army which Franco cannot raise in Spain because the majority of the people are against him.

On the other hand the International Brigades have simply been units in the new Republican Army. They have fought under the single command of the Republican Government, whereas Hitler and Mussolini dictate from Berlin and Rome, even to the point of giving orders for the conducting of operations. The commanders of the Army to which the International Brigades belong are not called Von Faupel, Teruzzi or Bergonzoli, but Miaja, Pozas and Rojo. In this army, to the sound of the songs of freedom of all countries, the Brigades have been the first modern military forces of the Spanish Republic. And so after the disasters of August, September and October, when those heroic militia battalions which had done marvels in the street fighting in the early days of the rebellion, were defeated in oper-



PASIONARIA, the symbol of brave Asturias, greets the Spanish Communist Party.



THE SECRETARY of the Madrid People's Front speaking at the meeting in the Bull-ring. On his right: Comrade Lampe. Left: Comrade Walter.

country, there followed first the implacable checks delivered by the new army in November and December at Madrid, at Lopera in December, and at Jarama in February. Meanwhile new Brigades of the People's Army were being organised behind this impenetrable shield. For the first time there was victory at Guadalajara-Caporetto. Henceforward not only was a stop put to the heavy weekly defeats of the Summer and Autumn and the retreat which followed, but the Republican Army, sure of itself, was beginning to recover the initiative in operations. It now sees the final victory drawing nearer. The strict discipline, freely consented to and maintained by the Internationals in their units, is also the discipline of the People's Army and opens the way to victory. Thus the International Brigades both fought and organised without respite — for until April only one Brigade had spent twelve days in the rear. This solid military wall formed by each of the International Brigades has been one of the greatest services they have rendered to the antifascist cause. The International Brigades — together with many other Brigades of the new Army — have been a living example of what must be done to conquer.



International Brigade with the Delegation of the

3.

THE VOICE OF UNITY

The International Brigades have given another example which is even greater.

They came from 25 different nationalities. They represented all kinds of different political trends: Socialist, Communist, Republican, Anarchist, Liberal even. Together with the workers, who formed the overwhelming majority of the fighters, there were mingled intellectuals and sometimes some ex-officers. And in spite of the differences of political views and language, antifascist unity was immediately and permanently maintained. The Republican Commander, his Socialist Adjutant, the Communist Commissar, each coming from different countries is a frequent combination. Yet political conflicts have never broken out on the General Staffs or in the military units.

A hundred times, French and German Volunteers have made the discovery that somewhere in the Great War they were face to face. Today they are in the same antifascist People's Army, and their only rivalry is in vying with one another in the fight. A former British sailor, a leader in the Invergordon, mutiny, was the su-

perior officer of a British Admiral's son. French ex-sailors, who had taken part in the Black Sea Mutiny or who had come from the Calvi military prison are section leaders who are models of discipline under the command of ex-soldiers who fought in the Great War. The hatred for barbarous fascism, the great ideal of Peace and Freedom, have soldered into one impenetrable force these fearless men who have come from all the different political horizons. Moreover they are daily fusing more and more with the Spanish people. Between two battles, cleaning their arms, with their wounds just dressed, they are to be found bending down over the village children whose fathers are at the front and who remind them of their own little ones. Hundreds of times, after distributing toys

and sweets levied from their meagre pay, they have found time to organise happy fêtes for the children.

Firm unity of action — that was the second example they gave, the most important at this time. The International Volunteers have shown that the secret of victory lies in antifascist unity, a unity without political or national distinctions.

Today there are no International Brigades in the sense in which we understood them a few months ago. These Brigades with their glorious banners no longer contain more than a small proportion of Internationals. They have been definitely fused in the young People's Army to which they have brought more than their military experience. Italians, Germans, Frenchmen, Belgians, Poles, Britishers, Americans, and others have all seen the fascists at work with their violence and demagoguery. They know that to break antifascist unity is death and defeat, and they have treasured this precious weapon, unity of action, as they treasure their own eyes. The essential strength which they have brought the new Republican Army lies in this antifascist unity, not only maintained, but strengthened after every battle.

This is so true that the enemy,

being unable to destroy the International Brigades by military means, has done everything possible to break that antifascist unity. In the first place they have tried to set certain sections of the Spanish people against the Internationals.

"Anarchist comrades", they have printed. "Beware of the Brigades of the Communist International who are fighting by our side to defeat fascism. They will constitute the army corps which the Catalanian and Spanish Communists will send against you, as they did against the Anarchists in the Russian Revolution".

This was written in Spain, and in France, England and other countries. It was not signed "Franco" but "P. O. U. M." Internationalist Communist Party — i. e. Trotskyist. An unspeakable action on the part of the scum who stealing the arms needed at the front. An insult to the heroes who had fallen in the struggle such for example as one of the commanders of the Henri Barbusse Battalion, who was an Anarchist and a model of discipline, and who died as a result of wounds received at the Jarama.

There is not a single son of the noble Spanish people who does not know how comradely and moving the relationship has always been between the Volunteers of the international forces and the military commanders of the Republican Army, with the different officials of the Republican Government, with the municipal authorities, the People's Front Committees and with all the political and trade union organisations without exception.

But the wretches have done more than that. They have sought to break the military unity, the

antifascist unity of the Internationals. Against the organisation in Brigades constituted in accordance with the plans of the War Minister and directed by a single responsible body, the Commander assisted by the Commissar and the Chief of Staff (or Adjutant Commander) — they have supported the system of isolated militia battalions directed by irresponsible committees! In other words, they support the system which has been irrevocably condemned by the defeats of the Summer of 1936 against the military organisation which has given the first victories. Whom do they expect to serve in that way, unless it is Franco and Hitler? What a melancholy sight it is to see French Socialism upholding the same deadly theory in the official organ of the Socialist Party, and using this argument to maintain that one ought not to send the Republican Army the arms it has been prevented from receiving during the last fifteen months! The efforts of those fascist agents had no success. Then they turned to open crime. And not merely to sabotage in an automobile workshop or in loading grenades.

Two Frenchmen — a Trotskyist and a police provocateur, expelled as such from the French Communist Party — tried to break up a battery at the moment when it was setting out for the front by taking from it all its gun-layers and all its sergeant-gunners. Under the command of a French Socialist ex-officer, who had fought in the Great War, this battery has subsequently revealed itself as one of the best in the Spanish Army. Who are these men working for? It is a French Trotskyist too who, together with the fascist French Consuls of Valencia,



THE CHILDREN are there, too.



COMRADE CAZORLA, Civil Governor of Albacete, speaking on behalf of the people at the commemoration.

Barcelona and Alicante, under cover of their diplomatic immunity, has been trying to organise the break-up of the International Brigades as a whole. He has been defended by the Hitlerite Doriot. If this had succeeded the Republican Army would have been weakened as a result. Magnanimously the Republican Government has limited itself to expelling these people, whom all the evidence shows to be agents of Franco and Hitler. The working-class in their country will not forget their foul crimes, despite even a Fenner Brockway's protection. The working-class will nail them and their infamy to the pillory for spies and provocateurs in the pay of the bloodthirsty torturers of the people, in the pay of German and Italy, in the pay of the worst enemies of the working-class.

But the most remarkable thing is that their efforts were in vain. *There is no Military Police in the International Brigades.* In spite of that, the efforts of these criminals have failed. The attack made by the Fifth Column and carried through above all by the Trotskyists has done everything possible to break up and demoralise the International Brigades. In December, at the Base, in January at Teruel, in February in the hospitals of Valencia, in April on all the fronts and in all the services. The attack was supported simultaneously by a violent campaign by the Hitlerite Doriot in France, by Degrelle in Belgium and by the most reactionary of the British Conservatives, but it broke like glass, not against a police barrage, but against the firm antifascist determination of the Volunteers. That is the great lesson which stands out after the Inter-

national Brigades' year of struggle. That is the great example which the Spanish people have received from them—these Brigades in which one might have feared that the enemy would be able to develop fatal differences between political trends and nationalities, have remained firmly united in face of the enemy of the human race.

It is to be regretted deeply that in many countries a few reactionary labour leaders persist in not wanting to understand the lessons of the Spanish epic—just as earlier they refused to understand the German tragedy.

It is highly dangerous when these same reactionary leaders of the Socialist International and the International Federation of Trade

Unions persist in ignoring the appeal for unity from those whose bonds of brotherhood have been made fast in blood and suffering

Spaniards and Internationals. It is madness for them—after these last 15 months—still to refuse that international united front which would raise an irresistible wave against the intervention of Hitler and Mussolini in Spain. It would take them by the throat through the boycott of dockers, sailors and railwaymen throughout the world. It would break the steel circle of the democratic states which is stifling the Spanish Republic more than Franco's bombs. "Made in Germany" are slaughtering it.

It is tragic that they refuse to listen to the voice of the old Socialist leader De Brouckère, who is appealing for the rapid and immediate realisation of international unity of action. It is not words that will stop the metal rain of shells, shrapnel and bombs which is torturing a brave people and the best sons of the International and Spanish working-class. Only deeds will do that. This is the urgent demand of those who have sealed that unity among the dead bodies of those of our dearest friends and comrades. Unity will ensure the antifascist victory in Spain and in the world. There is still just time enough to hear.

4.

AN IRRESISTABLE FORCE

However, the time has come to tell what that force is which

among a chaos of men, unable to understand one another, has given rise to and has led in battle that little modern army which was constituted by the International Brigades and has defended them against the stab in the back.

The moment has come to say what that irresistible force is which is rising among the noble Spanish people and will give them victory.

That force is the antifascist spirit and the will to unity of the workers, gathering together and urging forward the whole of the people.

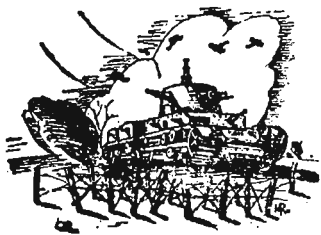
The International Brigades have never been non-political. Far from that. Not a unit has gone to the front without the Political Commissars being appointed by the side of the Brigade Battalion, Company, Battery and Squadron Commanders. These Commissars have relied on the workers who formed the majority in the units, and among them on the mass of Socialists and Communists who now in reality form one united body. It is here that the essential strength lies.

Among a thousand examples, who can fail to remember that of the XIIIth Brigade when, on the morning of November 9th, the order came for it to be sent to Madrid at the latest on the 10th. What a condition it was in! The first-comers among its Volunteers had been at the Base ten days. The latest arrivals had been there for 24 hours. Only the Garibaldi Battalion was formed, but it was armed with 25 rifles and one machine-gun. No equipment. Half the other Volunteers were in civilian clothes. Not one of them had his equipment. The rifles were of four different types. The Brigade had three types of machine guns. The artillery had not even a quarter of the trucks they needed. They could not carry out manoeuvres with the guns because the lack of material. It was impossible to work at night: the light had been cut off because of the danger from the air. To form the Brigade in 36 hours seemed an impossibility. Nevertheless, Lukacs and the international General Staff—military and political—accepted without hesitation, for they knew they did not have to rely only on a military leadership however highly qualified—which was scarcely formed! They could rely on the antifascist spirit of the Brigade, on the rank and file of the worker-soldiers, the great majority Socialists and Commu-



COLONEL MANGADA

nists, on the Commissars who would be equal to all difficulties and would prove on the spot, the necessity for solving them, at whatever cost, in order to defeat fascism. By marvels of initiative they succeeded. There was not a mistake made in the distribution of the different rifles. A lack of trouser-suspenders — they used canvass. A lack of cartridge pouches — they cut up sacks. The carpenters prepared supports for the cannon. The section leaders formed fighting groups while supplies were being distributed. The artillery officers were studying firing tables with dictionaries in their hands. The horses were being shod while the saddles were still



missing. While the doctors and surgeons were hastily collecting the indispensable medical instruments and supplies, carpenters were preparing stretchers. And in the midst of an enthusiastic and unheard of hubbub of the frantic preparations two Renault assemblers were testing the engines of trucks of every make in the world, as calmly as if they were in a model workshop. Before the final review and the departure there was still time to call together a big meeting to commemorate the glorious nineteenth anniversary of the great Socialist October Revolution and to present to the whole Brigade their Commander, Lukacs their Commissar, and the Commanders and Adjutants of the General Staff. And what the bourgeoisie would call a miracle was performed: at 8 p. m. on November 10th, the XIIth Brigade, fully organised and equipped, provided with artillery, cavalry, motor-cyclists, a political section, medical and supply services, set out for Madrid, singing the *International* in Spanish, Italian, German and French.

The antifascist spirit of the proletarian soldiers had overcome all difficulties.

Many, many times, in the most difficult and sometimes in the most tragic moments, this, high antifascist political consciousness, always maintained and increased,

has been the creative and organising motive force that worked real miracles. Today the great joy of the fighters is to see that in all countries and throughout the Spanish Army this force of the united workers is growing greater drawing closer together, and is ensuring the victory.

Their greatest happiness would be to see it develop faster, much faster throughout the whole world. All have worked well. But none the less a fundamental truth must be stated: the Communists can be proud that in these tragic moments, they, who have constituted the majority of the working-class group in each unit—and they would have been happy to have been put in a minority by more Socialist comrades—they have been equal to the great historic task which faces them.

In these twelve months of heroism they have been worthy members of that revolutionary workers' Party of a new type, the world Party of the Bolsheviks. They are worthy sons of that Party, which formed and led by the greatest minds of our times, Lenin and Stalin, has overthrown the old world and is about to celebrate with joy 20 years of real liberation for a whole people. All are worthy of that great Antifascist and Communist fighter, George Dimitrov, whose magnificent example of proletarian firmness and vision, of political realism and antifascist hatred in face of death, put in check the butchers of the German people, and has been and remains their guide at each stage in the struggle.

FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

The workers of the whole world, all men of unfettered spirit, will always pay a tribute of infinite gratitude to those who have given their health, their blood and their lives for the antifascist cause in Spain which, as Stalin said, "is the cause of all advanced and progressive humanity."

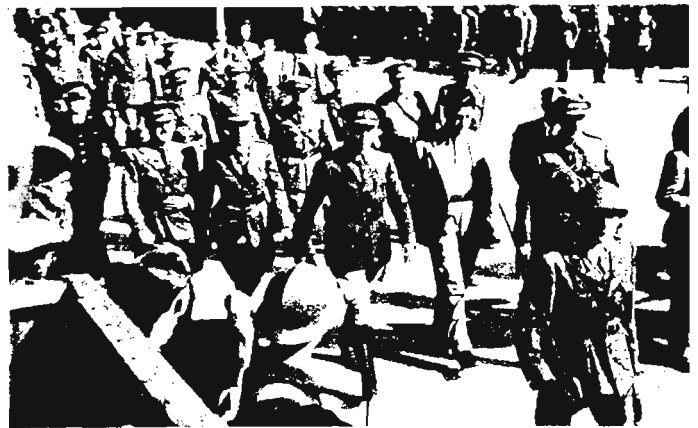
Lukacs, the great Hungarian revolutionary writer, Commander of the XIIth Brigade; Hans Beimler, the steeled German revolutionary, Commissar of the XIth Brigade; Alfred Brugère, a Paris building worker, Commander of the Machine Gun Company of the Paris Commune Battalion; Ralph Fox, the English writer and soldier, Company Commissar in the Barbusse Battalion; Parovic the Jugoslavian Commissar of the XVth

Brigade, and so many others who have left us forever, killed facing the enemy. But their example will live always in the hearts of the great and noble Spanish people and the international working-class.

We salute their courage and we swear to avenge them. We shall only do this, we shall only honour our dead as they deserve *by raising ever higher the banner of the cause for which they have fallen*, the banner of struggle against fascism without rest or truce, the banner of trade union unity, the banner of the political unity of the workers of all countries.

The fight is not finished. Every day fresh reinforcements, fresh engines of death are being sent to

at the end of 1936 and the beginning of 1937 will remain the true friends of the Spanish people in the future even more than in the past. They know that the fate of the European peoples, the fate of peace and freedom is being decided on Spanish soil. For this reason the antifascist front must conquer and will conquer. The defeat in Spain of the most bestial regime the world has ever seen will not only bring freedom and peace to the Spanish people. It will bring a new hope to the people who are still crushed beneath the fascist heel. And when the multitudes of the working-class and the people greet the truly democratic Republic, henceforth free, there is not one of the fighters in Spain today who will not



THE GENERAL STAFF reviews the troops.

Franco by his masters in Berlin and Rome. Every day world peace is threatened with greater danger. Now the Chinese people in their turn are resisting the brutal and savage aggression of Japanese imperialism. Already there are two fires ablaze in the world. We must hasten the victory.

The Spanish Republican Army, precisely because it can now count on more than half a million fighters, has an even greater need of leading forces than it had a year ago. And since each International Volunteer is in himself a centre of organisation and unity, he is more valuable than ever.

Franco is only maintained by the injections of Italian and Nazi reinforcements. His collapse is inevitable. But in the death agony the cornered beast can kill.

Consequently the Volunteers in the International Brigades who together with their Spanish comrades have dealt many a hard blow in conditions as difficult as those

be proud to tell his children in the happy future: "I was one of the Volunteers in Spain."

Greater effort should be made in Spain and throughout the world, in the future more than in the past, to achieve this triumph of the antifascist struggle. More still should be done to overcome the resistance to unity, to sweep away those who fight against it and those who sabotage it, so that in this way a more rapid victory may be assured over the modern barbarians with their black shirts and their swastikas.

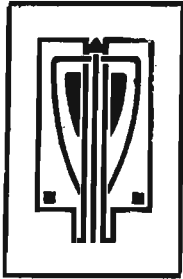
And so, long life to the heroes of the great Republican Army!

Forward to the final victory of the Democratic Spanish Republic!

Forward to this victory, the prelude to a sure peace in the world and to the liberation of the peoples still enslaved by fascism!

ANDRÉ MARTY

October 10, 1937.



OUR INTERNATIONAL

AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE



COMRADE RICHARD, Brigade Commander says a few words of greeting. Commander Raimondi can be recognised at the back.

The Units constituted by Spanish and foreign volunteers were organised by the decree of August 31st, 1920 ("Diario Oficial" number 195) developed in the circular order of September 4th of the same year. Neither of these orders is however fully applicable to the forces similarly recruited which are at present fighting heroically as part of the Republican Army.

Even though the Units now existing under the name of International Brigades are legally those which the Spanish State, using its sovereign rights, has constituted to take the place of the Units which revolted in July 1936, and are analogous to those which under different names exist in the Armies of almost all countries, it is necessary to lay down fresh norms which should regulate their recruitment, organisation, administration, etc. To meet with this necessity I have determined:

1. To take the place of the Tercio de Extranjeros (Foreign Legion), formed under the decree of August 31st, 1920 ("Diario Oficial" n° 195) the International Brigades are formed as Units in the Spanish Army. At the present time five of the above-mentioned Brigades should be constituted on the basis of those formed spontaneously in the course of the present war, adapting their consti-

tuition to the norms indicated in the present order.

2. Tactically the International Brigades will be used as front line troops and in all the services of peace and war, with no restriction other than that of their military utility.

3. Their organisation will follow the model assigned to the Mixed Brigades in the Spanish Army. The troops forming these Brigades will be subject to the Code of Military Justice and to the Army Statutes, in the same way as Spanish soldiers.

4. The training of the International Brigades will be adjusted to the same Regulations and Instructions as those which are in force in the other Units of the Army.

5. The uniforms and equipment will be the same as those of the other forces in the Spanish Army with no difference other than that of wearing on the right side of the shirt or jacket, two centimetres above the pocket, the emblem which will be published in the DIARIO OFICIAL and which only those incorporated in these Units, whatever their military rank, will be entitled to use.

6. In Albacete the International Brigades will have their Base, the fundamental mission of which will be to receive the volunteers, both Spanish subjects and foreigners who present themself-

OUR RIGHTS A

We are publishing the Decree which lays down the position of the International Brigades in the Spanish People's Army and the rights and duties of all the Volunteers for Liberty.

This is the first document which determines in an official manner which this position and these rights and duties.

It determines these in a way which is completely satisfactory to our soldiers.

It is clearly emphasised in the Decree that our brave Brigades have nothing to do with the "Tercio" which revolted against the Republic in 1936 and is composed of the dregs of all countries.

In our Brigades are gathered together the best sons of all the peoples. The Brigades are the World People's Front fighting by the side of Spain to defend the people's liberty and independence.

It is to express this highly po-

litical significance that the Decree determines that all the Volunteers for Liberty should wear as their distinguishing mark the *three-pointed star* which is the symbol of the World People's Front.

The Decree also lays it down that our Brigades form an integral part of the Spanish People's Army.

We have always asked for this and have always affirmed it. We have come here with one single purpose: to defend the liberty and independence of Spain. We have always obeyed the orders of the Government and its General Staff. We only ask for the honour of serving the common cause of liberty on the same terms as the Spanish fighters.

A regular army and a unified command: these are the essential conditions for victory in the armed struggle against fascism.

Because of this we receive with enthusiasm all those measures in

ves to swell the ranks of the Brigades, to train them and send them to the Brigades as circumstances demand. Once the recruits are incorporated in the Brigades they will cease to be subordinate to the Base whenever the Brigades are tactically subordinate to the corresponding military commands and will constitute administrative units in an analogous manner to the other Mixed Brigades in the Army.

Nevertheless the International Brigades will depend on their Base for the following:

- a) In addition to their reports to their own military commanders, the Brigades will report to the Base all their movements from one place to another, their losses, leaves granted for the interior of Spain and in general all that supposes a change of any importance in the life of the Brigades.

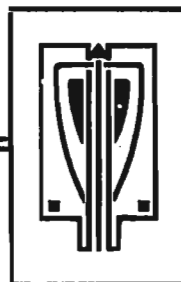
- b) Petitions for leave abroad will be noted by the Brigade Commanders and forwarded to the Base. In no case will the applicant be authorised to absent himself from the ranks of his unit before the leave has been granted.

- c) All proposals for promotion to whatever rank, beginning with promotion from corporal to sergeant, will be forwarded to the Base by the Brigade Commanders.

- d) When any Brigade has a soldier who, after previous medical examination in the Unit, is declared to be presumed unfit, the Brigade, without removing him from its list of effectives, will send him, to the Base where his case will receive final medical examination. When his *unfitness* is confirmed this will be communicated to the Brigade so that the latter can remove him from the list of effectives. In cases were

ONAL BRIGADES

SPANISH PEOPLE'S ARMY



ND OUR DUTIES

The Decree which tend to make our Brigades more and more integral parts of the Spanish People's Army.

The needs of the first days, the lack of organisation which still existed at that time, made it necessary to have a rather special organisation of our services.

Now our army has developed. All our services function remarkably well and all the services of the International Brigades should be organised on the basis of the services of the Regular Spanish Army.

Our postal, supply and medical services should therefore form an integral part of the respective Spanish services.

As a token of the services rendered by the Brigades the Decree grants the recognition of some advantages to the combattants. This is the significance of the points concerning the nomination of offi-

cers and the International Volunteer's right to 13 days' leave abroad for every 6 months' service at the front.

The last point in the Decree, which lays it down that all the volunteers enroll until the end of the war, emphasises even more strongly that our Brigades are not formed of mercenaries, but of volunteers ready to fight to the finish to secure the defeat of Spanish and international fascism.

They are fighters who know all the hardships of the struggle and who never flinch and never will flinch before the fascist butchers, either in their own countries or in the trenches of freedom.

Victory or death is their slogan, just as it is the slogan of all the Spaniards.

L. GALLO

Commissar Inspector of the International Brigades.

ve their families abroad, and who have no residence here, can spend their leave in Spain.

8. In no case will the Base intervene in the functioning of the Supply and Medical Services relating to the International Brigades. The Brigades will make use of the general services of the Army in the same way as the other Mixed Brigades. Nevertheless on the basis of a proposition which the Base will make to this Ministry, the General Medical Inspectorate will be able to organise, under the Inspectorate's control, the installation of special hospitals with the qualified staff and assistants necessary for the wounded and convalescent members of

the International Brigades who are in need of lengthy hospital treatment. Entrance to the said hospitals will be regulated at all times by the General Medical Inspectorate.

9. The relation between this Ministry and the Base of the International Brigades will be effected through the Foreigner's Bureau, attached to the Section of Services of the Undersecretariat of the Army.

10. The International Brigades will be formed of Spanish and foreign volunteers. Nevertheless this Ministry reserves the right to send directly to the Brigades the soldiers, non-commissioned and commissioned officers, and

REPÚBLICA ESPAÑOLA
1.ª BRIGADA MOR
ORDEN

20 de Noviembre 1936

ORDEN DEL DIA N.º OPERACIONES
para la jornada del 20 de Noviembre

1er Parte

18

I.- SITUACION GENERAL. Hacia fin de la jornada nos seguimos moviendo en la linea. Continúan los combates en la zona de Madrid a Getafe, norte de Cerro de los Angeles.

II.- MOVIMIENTOS EN LA LINEA. En contacto de nuestra primera linea, el enemigo cambia progresivamente sus posiciones, concentrando las fuerzas parcialmente en la zona comprendida entre las rutas de BENEJUNTER y TOLME, con presencia posible de chars.

III.- MISIONES EN LA BRIGADA. Adoptar en caso de necesidad un dispositivo de reserva en una zona de reserva, sur la orden del General. Queda la Sección de MIA en direccion de CERROJO, zona de BENEJUNTER y LOS ANGELES.

IV.- DISPOSICION DE LA BRIGADA (ver croquis).
2 batallones en 1.ª Sección (1.ª y 2.ª batallones).
1.ª Batallón a derecha (Norte) zona de LOS ANGELES.
2.ª Batallón SIO-240 (Centros de Vellora).
4.ª Batallón (en reserva). Caso de ALABARR, caso de adhiere una compañía a la punta de Arganda/Vozia. Mas

V.- DISPOSICION DE LOS BATALLONES. Puesto en cada uno de los 1.ª y 2.ª batallones dos compañías en 1.ª Sección, batallón en profundidad, una compañía en reserva. La compañía de mitraillesas en reserva de apoyar las unidades, para el pasaje de la zona, si el ataque es necesario.
La Compañía de VELA, sur.
1.ª Una sección en las pasadas de ALABARR (Calle de Vellora).

III.- Una sección en el punto de ALABARR.

III.- Una sección en el punto de ALABARR.

AN HISTORIC document which proves that from the beginning our Brigades obeyed the orders of the Spanish Government.

unfitness is not confirmed the person concerned will return to his Unit.

e) The Brigades should send to the Base all particulare statements and reports for which they are asked.

7. In addition to the organs necessary to execute the above functions, the Base of the International Brigades will have the organs corresponding to the following:

a) To collecting and distributing among the Brigades all the gifts which international solidarity may send expressly to the Brigades.

b) To take the first steps in matters of pensions for death or incapacity, collecting the documents and antecedents demanded by the legislation in force and then forwarding them to this Ministry for decision.

c) To forward to this Ministry, after investigating them, the petitions for permission to leave Spanish territory made by members of the International Brigades of whatever rank.

d) To report to the Ministry on the incorporation of recruits and their departure for the Brigades.

e) To keep a file which will contain all the relevant particulars concerning the members of the Brigades.

f) To propose the formation, and when necessary to undertake the direction of centres for re-education necessary for members of the Brigades who stand in need of this as a result of injuries received on war service.

g) To propose the formation, and when necessary to undertake the direction of rest homes in which those combattants who ha-



COMRADESHIP in the trenches. Commander Mera, Anarchist, with Commander "Campesino", Communist.

Commanders whom it deems desirable. The personnel at the Base will consist preferably of members of the Brigades who are sent for service at the front, and in any case it will be indispensable for the members of the personnel to have been at the front for the minimum period of three months which is laid down in the decree of June 19th of this year ("Diario Oficial" No. 148). The personnel of the Foreigner's Bureau will be appointed by the Ministry.

11. The foreign personnel of the Brigades will consist of those who of their own accord present themselves at the Foreigner's Bureau or before its delegates and who, after admission, will be sent to the Base for registration. The Spanish personnel will consist of those who apply for admission to the Brigades to this Ministry, either directly if they are not subject to military service, or through the regulation channels if they are in the Army. The petitions will be dealt with as a matter of urgency and in the event of their being answered in the affirmative by this Ministry the order will be given for the person concerned to be removed from the list of the effectives of the Unit from which he proceeds, his entry at the Base of the Inter-

national Brigades and his immediate enrolment in the Brigades.

12. The Spanish or foreign soldiers of the International Brigades will fill by promotion 50 % of the vacancies in the Brigades for sergeants, officers and commanders. With this object the Brigades, when reporting to the Base that such posts are vacant, will propose those members in the Brigades whom they regard as deserving of promotion. To pass from one post to another it will be necessary to have held the lower post for a minimum period of two months. If the Brigade does not possess sufficient personnel to fill the vacancies, they will be filled by the nominees of other International Brigades, and in the event of there being none they will be filled by the Ministry by direct nominations of military personnel. A vacancy will not be considered to have been created except in cases of death or when the Base communicates that the post is vacant through unfitness, a change in post or removal from the Army. Absences due to wounds, illness or leave will not be considered as vacancies, and when necessary the posts concerned will be filled temporarily by men from lower posts, without this supposing any promotion. Those who are promo-

ted will receive the corresponding rank of sergeant, officer or commander of the International Brigades, and when the present campaign is ended they will constitute the permanent commanding cadres in the said Units. The sergeants, officers and commanders of the International Brigades cannot be sent outside these Units. They can be isolated, expelled or reduced in rank for obvious incompetence or impropriety in the execution of their duty, after a report has been made by the Commander of the corresponding Brigade and by the Commander of the Base.

13. The other 50 % of the vacancies of sergeants, officers and commanders will be filled with men sent directly by the Ministry of Defence, from among those who are already recognised in those posts in the Army. These men will remain subject as far as promotions are concerned to the general existing norms in the matter of recompenses.

The commanders, officers and sergeants who desire to be sent into the International Brigades should send in the appropriate application to the Personnel Section of the Undersecretariat of the Army.

14. Soldiers, non-commissioned and commissioned officers and commanders, both Spanish and foreign, belonging to the International Brigades will in cases of incapacity or death have the same rights as those in the rest of the Army.

15. All members of the Brigades will have the right to thirteen days leave for every six months at the front, always providing that the necessities of service permit it and providing that the conduct of the soldiers concerned make them deserving of this in the Commander's opinion. For this purpose the corresponding turns, two a month, will be fixed in each Brigade, so that each month leaves can be begun once they have been passed in-



TODOS LOS PUEBLOS DEL MUNDO
ESTAN EN LAS BRIGADAS
INTERNACIONALES AL LADO DEL
PUEBLO ESPAÑOL



COMRADE ALVAREZ DEL VAYO,
General Commissar of War.

view by the Commissar. Those who wish to spend their leave outside Spain should apply in advance, abiding by the decision which is taken. The Commander of the Base of the International Brigades will communicate to each of the Brigades the number of places at their disposal in the Rest Homes which may be installed in virtue of the provisions of section (g) of the seventh article of this order.

16. The measures laid down in this order will be put rapidly into operation by the soldiers and officers now constituting the International Brigades and their Base as they receive the appropriate instructions from the Foreigner's Bureau of the Undersecretariat of the Army.

17. The Commanders of the International Brigades will send to the Base of the Brigades with

all possible speed a statement of the leading forces, specifying their nationality, date of birth, date of entry into the International Brigades and date at which they were given their present posts, so that the Ministry can proceed to confirm them in those posts when it considers this fitting.

18. The necessarily variable condition of the organisation of the personnel constituting the Base of the International Brigades makes it impossible, at least for the moment, to assign to it a fixed organisation. For the purpose of the review by the Commissar the numerical account will be sent monthly to the Foreigners Bureau and in relation to this the review should be made.

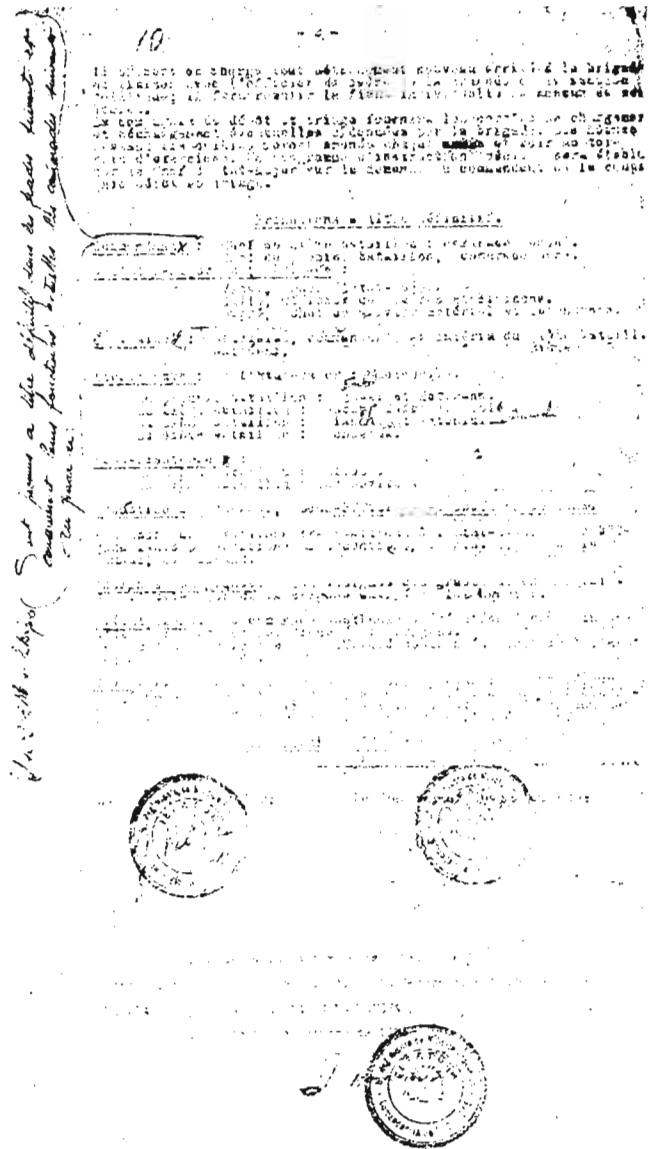
19. To those foreigners who have served for more than a year in the Army with a clear record and very deserving conduct a certificate will be forwarded which will serve as the basis for according them Spanish nationality should they so desire.

20. All those who voluntarily enter the International Brigades undertake to remain in them until the end of the present campaign. When this campaign is finished the norms will be laid down in accordance with which these Units should be organised in the future.

I communicate this to Your Excellency for your information and for application.

PRIETO

Valencia, September 23rd, 1937.



ONE OF the Government's first orders.



I. B. CELEBRATION IN ALBACETE

(Continued from page 3.)

gades as the living expression of the World People's Front. Comrade Lampe, Political Commissar of the Albacete Base maintained that Spain was fighting for the liberty of all countries and the volunteers of all lands who had answered her appeal had not come to fight as adventurers, but simply with the firm intention of crushing international fascism finally and utterly.

"To win the victory", he said, "We need the closest unity of all Antifascists!"

The representatives of the Albacete People's Front and of the Youth Alliance also spoke.

At the end of the day, after this moving commemoration, one conclusion was engraved in the minds of the people:

Antifascist unity in Spain is the strongest weapon for victory.

Antifascist unity throughout the world will be the universal grave of fascism.

And beneath the tricolor flag of the Spanish People's Front and its Government, the International Brigades are in fact the purest, the most advanced, the most living and the most burning expression of the World People's Front.

A TRUE PICTURE OF THE VOLUNTEERS FOR LIBERTY

The I. B. Political Commissariat to form a home for the orphaned Spanish children

On the first anniversary of the International Brigades the Political Commissariat of Madrid has taken an important decision which cannot fail to have the happiest repercussions. In a gay and sunny spot we are going to make a home to receive the children of the Spanish comrades who have fought in our Units and have fallen in battle against fascism. We, the Volunteers for Liberty, should bring a little joy and happiness into the lives of those poor little children whom the war has orphaned and plunged into the cruellest suffering. We must bring back a little life and hope to those children whom we want to see healthy and happy, for they are the Spain of tomorrow. There are hundreds and hundreds of them asking for our care and affection, and for whose sake we should carry out as soon as possible the most modest of the duties of human solidarity. It is to carry out this splendid work that we are again approaching all the soldiers of peace and freedom, and once again making an appeal to their generosity.

We know that our appeal will be answered. It must be. Begin collections at once for all the tiny orphans who are a little, as it were, our own. Help us to make ready without delay that fine building in which we shall be able to calm so much grief and distress.

Our home will be worthy of the glorious past of the International Brigades, a living symbol of human solidarity.

ANDRE GREGOIRE



Some scenes from our units' stays in villages in the rearward.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. I - N.° 22

Madrid, November 8 - 1937

SPAIN HAILS SOVIET UNION'S ANNIVERSARY TODAY

225 MURDERED BY FASCIST BOMBS

Lerida Children Killed in School By Air Raid

An official Government report informs us that new fascist trimotors continue to attack civil populations in cities and towns distant from any battle fronts. Last week 9 fascist bombers flew over the city of Lerida, located more than 150 kilometres away from the Aragon front and bombed and machine-gunned the civil population. Among the buildings demolished was a school house where children were at session. After the air raid, the bodies of fifty children were excavated from the ruins of the school. The number of civilians dead total about 225. The authorities have not as yet completed the totaling of those injured.

SABOTAGE IN FASCIST PLANE FACTORY

In the Italian Aviation factory, Reggio-Emilia, 20 workers, all members of the Fascist Party, were arrested by the Mussolini government for acts of sabotage, it has been confirmed.

The "Voce degli Italiani", Paris antifascist Italian newspaper carries the news that 16 airplanes headed for Spain were forced down because of faulty machinery.

20 Years of Workers' Victory Nov. 7, 1917 - Nov. 7, 1937

Today we celebrate the twenty years of progress of Socialism in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. During these years, we have witnessed the transformation of old, backward, Czarist Russia into the great Soviet land it is today — taking its place among the foremost advanced nations of the world. From a land of industrial backwardness it has become one of the great modern industrial nations. In agriculture, the age-old methods of cultivation and production have been replaced by tractors and the most modern farm machinery. The old mud roads have been paved and up-to-date highways now cover the nation. Endless miles of railroads cross the breadth and width of Soviet soil. Unity and fraternity are established for all times between the peoples of the various nationalities, comprising the great Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Education and culture have taken the place of ignorance and superstition.

Twenty years in which the workers and peasants have constantly seen tremendous improvements in their working and living conditions. Everything undertaken — nobly and honorably carried out. Following the lead of the Stakhanovites — thousands of workers and peasants, day by day, increase production in industry and agriculture — helping to create Socialist prosperity. Twenty years of progress in the fight to maintain world peace — while busily engaged in Socialist construction — that is the record of the Soviet people and its government.

We in Spain celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the great October Revolution in the midst of our great struggle against world fascism. We are fighting against the efforts of international fascism to implant in Spain its bloody regime of bestial terror and barbarism. We fight in the ranks of the heroic Spanish Peoples Army — with the full knowledge that the defeat of fascism on Spanish soil will be the victory of peace and progress throughout the world.

The Soviet people have taken sides in this struggle. They have seen their ships, laden with cargoes of food

(Continued on page 7.)

FLASH!

LaGuardia Reelected
Mayor of New York;
Crushes Mahoney
By 450,000 Votes

As this issue goes to press, the news has just been flashed in that Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, backed by a powerful labor and progressive — virtually a People's Front — vote, has been swept into office for another term as chief executive of the city of New York. The labor and progressive vote swept the Mayor back into office with almost a half million votes to spare, swamping the Tammany candidate, Mahoney, under a vote of 1,304,016 to 889,591.

★

We are still waiting anxiously for news of the elections in other large American cities, notably Detroit, where it is virtually certain that several labor candidates will be elected to the City Council.

LETTERS from HOME

FROM THE SOUTH WALES MINERS' FEDERATION

Dear Friend (Mr. Bill Morrissey): Your message of salutation from the Welsh comrades of the International Brigade to the miners of South Wales was read to my Executive Council, and I am instructed to reciprocate and wish the International Brigade every success and a final victory for the democratic forces in Spain.

Wish all good wishes.
Yours sincerely,

OLIVER HARRIS
General Secretary South
Wales Miner's Federation
Cardiff, Oct. 14, 1937.

★

CHICAGO POST OFFICE CLERKS SEND GREETINGS

Greetings from Chicago to the heroic defenders of democracy. We in the states appreciate what you are doing. Carry on, and we will assist you all we can.

A GROUP OF CHICAGO
POST OFFICE CLERKS
Sept. 28, 1937.

★

AND SOME CONFETTI FOR THE VOLUNTEER

Dear Comrades: Congratulations on the splendid special anniversary number. Everybody at ... was tremendously impressed with the make-up and the contents. Many copies are being sent home by the patients and personnel, who feel that the VOLUNTEER is one of the finest publications in Spain.

With anti-fascist greetings,

IRVING BUSCH
Commandante American
Hospitals in Spain.
Oct. 29, 1937.

★

What do you think of THE VOLUNTEER? Write in when you

In the Name of 400,000 Auto Workers



GENERAL OFFICES
801-5 HOFMANN BLDG.
DETROIT, MICH.
Cable: 8146-7-4-9

International Union United Automobile Workers of America

GENERAL OFFICERS

HOMER MARTIN	President
WYNHAM MORTIMER	First Vice-President
E. HALE	Second Vice-President
WALTER M. WELLS	Third Vice-President
GEO. F. ADDIS	Secretary-Treasurer



September 14, 1937

Mr. John Rossen
c/o Socorro Rojo #273
Plaza del Altozano
Albacete, Spain

Dear Brother Rossen:

Your letter of August 23 has pleased me very much indeed. I am delighted to know that you are enough interested in your union, although in distant Spain, to remember the date of the Convention and to send these greetings.

It was a great Convention. You would have been impressed by the militant spirit and the progressive attitude of the delegates. I am sure that we have established a more effective way of dealing with our problems and a more efficient structural set-up since the Milwaukee Convention. I know we will be able to stabilize our relationship with General Motors, Chryslers and other corporations in a satisfactory way as a result of the Convention. At the same time, we are ready for a vigorous campaign to organize Ford Motor Company.

We have not forgotten the fight that is being waged by our fellow-unionists against Fascism and we want you to know that we are 100% behind you in your struggle.

With every good wish, I am

Faternally yours,

Homer Martin
Homer Martin
General President

hm/ab
uopwa #26
c 1 o

AT LEAST 100,000 American workers belong to the U. A. W. A., whose president's letter to one of our comrades is here reproduced. Among the Americans in Spain are many auto workers who will be cheered to know that just as we, in the thousands, are fighting fascism on the battlefields, are they, in the hundreds of thousands, fighting to make fascism and its unnamed but known sponsors impossible at home.

have the chance, and let us know. Everything goes suggestions, criticisms, contributions - so long as the aim is constructive and meant to better our paper. And, whenever possible - barring shortage of

our varied paper supply, or shortage of zinc for the making of cuts, or a shelling that puts our printshop's electric power out of commission, or the sudden decision of our best engraver to chuck his job and

join the Peoples Army (which happened recently) -- we'll make fullest use of your confetti or your brickbats. Address all communications to THE VOLUNTEER, S. R. I. Plaza del Altozano, 63 E, Albacete.

WILLIAM DOBBIE, BRITISH LABOUR M. P., AND FORMER RAILWAY WORKER, SPEAKS OVER MADRID RADIO

I am speaking from Madrid after an experience in Spain which I shall never forget.

I attended the opening of the Cortes in Valencia last Friday and, in view of the international situation, it was indeed a historic meeting. I, with Ernest Thurtle, was attending the Assembly to convey to the Government of Spain a message of good will from the Labour movement of Great Britain.

Dr. Negrin, the Prime Minister, welcomed us to the Cortes. We extended our greetings to him and delivered our message, which was received by the Prime Minister with much satisfaction and has been received everywhere in the spirit in which it was sent.

The speech of the Prime Minister in which he emphasised that the Government wanted peace and order to develop the country according to the democratic decision of the nation, while on the other hand they would resist fascist aggression to the last man, was received enthusiastically. A vote of confidence in the Government was moved in which conservatives, anarchists, socialists, liberals, communists, in fact all sections of the House, expressed their agreement and was carried unanimously.

In the evening Mr. Thurtle and myself had the privilege of meeting the Prime Minister in his private residence. He confirmed the prospect opened out to me that as time went on slowly but surely the Government would get better in organisation from a military standpoint and that the industrial population were playing their part by applying themselves to an intensive organisation of supplies, by the opening of new factories and by the extension of existing works. It is very true to say that in the minds of the ordinary man and woman in Spain there is a great wondering as to why the democratic countries of the world who are members of the League of Nations deny to the Spanish Government, which is also a member of the League,

the right of application of International Law to buy the things that are needed to defend the democratically elected Government of the country, while these nations stand idly by and watch the violation of all international principles by the fascist states who are assisting the rebels. This question has been put to me by many representative people in Spain.

The Government are confident they will win, and they only want to win because they represent the will of the people.

On Saturday the House again met and, after a speech by Pasionaria, who is a deputy for the Asturias, and who is the wife of a miner as well as the daughter of a miner, and who represents a district which has made wonderful sacrifices for the ideals of the Government, the House adjourned.

On Sunday, there was a terrific bombardment from the air at Valencia.

As I stood in that scene of death and desolation, and later on watched the clearing of the debris, and the taking away of dead and wounded civilian population, I wondered if there is no force in our great world civilization that can put an end to acts of barbarism like this.

In contrast to this I visit a war prisoners' camp where there are 1,168 prisoners. A number of them speak English and they all look pretty good physically, they all agree that they are treated well, and that their rations are as good as they were while in the rebels' army.

There are no luxuries to be obtained in the way of food in Valencia and the Government have very wisely decided to ration early, so that they may be able to meet the exigency of the winter, no one is starving, but every one is rigidly held to his ration.

On Monday I proceed to Madrid.

A year ago and then later I was in this city when it seemed

fairly probable that the rebels would capture it. Today I am confident the city is impregnable.

I have seen on the way from Valencia a change in the personnel and morale of the soldiery. While in 1936 I saw untrained, unarmed men and women defending the barricades, I now see well trained young men, well equipped with arms, and enthusiasm for their country and their cause, ready to defend it to the last.

I pass through the streets of Madrid and on through the section of the area which has been bombed and shelled so often, and I see people still living in this district. I pass through the gates of the Casa de Campo. This is the immediate Madrid front, a wonderful park, part of which the rebels still hold. I meet the Major, a young man, like most of the officers and I am impressed by the demonstration of comradeship and trust exhibited by everyone toward him.

I walked along with the officer into some territory lately captured from the rebels and which the Government troops were clearing.

I saw some gruesome sights which make one wonder what kind of people are engaged in

this struggle and what passions stir their breasts.

I saw men and women tied together lying dead in circumstances which made one shudder. This has not terrorised the youth of the Spanish Government forces, but has made them say more determinedly than ever, the aggression shall not pass this way.

I finish my survey at 2 A. M. on the morning of the 6th. Today by 7 A. M. I am again looking round and today I have seen the work of making and preparing armoured cars. I have seen and talked to the railwaymen who are operating the armoured train.

I have seen also the educational work which is being carried on in the training schools of the various battalions. This last year hundreds of young men have learned to read and write in the army and are preparing for a nobler citizenship when the war is over, under a democratic Government, than ever has been known in Spain before. As I leave the railwaymen in their armoured train they shout: "Salud! Long live the Spanish Republic!"

This spirit can never be broken. The Government of Spain has the people behind it

I am confident they will win.



A GROUP of women and children leaving their "refugio" after an air raid. Such women and children were bombed, and 225 killed, at Lerida a week ago (see story on page 1).

MADRID POPULAR FRONT GOVERNMENT HONORS THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

At a huge meeting arranged by the Popular Front Government in honor of the volunteers of the International Brigades, on Sunday, October 31, an enthusiastic crowd jammed the Calderon, one of Madrid's largest theaters, to express their gratitude toward the antifascists who have come from every part of the world to join them in their fight against fascism. General Miaja, chief of the army of the

center and the people's beloved defender of Madrid, presided over the meeting. He presented banners to the delegates of the various units of the International Brigades.

A large hand embroidered silk banner, in the colors of the Spanish Republican flag with the Madrid antifascist emblem placed in the center was presented to each of the five International Brigades.



THE 15TH BRIGADE banner, given by the Popular Front of Madrid to the Anglo-American fighters, held aloft by Lieutenant Harry Poll, the leader of the Brigade's delegation to Madrid. At right, center, the entire delegation is grouped around the Brigade banner and the smaller Battalion banners. At right, top, General Miaja salutes at the International Brigade's celebration. Part of the audience can be seen at right bottom.



Madrid's ancient emblem consists of a crown within which looms a bear on its haunches facing a tree. A three-pointed star on the lower edge of the crown represents the world's antifascist emblem. Each battalion in each Brigade was given a pennant-like banner which was as carefully and as beautifully made as the larger one. In addition, a gramophone with records, a radio, and some books were distributed to various Brigade delegates.

At the long table on the platform with General Miaja were seated Frank Ryan, commander of the Irish fighters in Spain, who has been with the International Brigades from almost their inception and Artur Dorf, first Commissar of the first International Battalion which went into battle on the Madrid front during the dark days of last November. Among others at the table was the General Secretary of Madrid's Popular Front Government.

The program opened with the presentation by General Miaja of the banners and gifts

to the delegates of the various Brigades and Battalions. Each delegate filed past and as a young girl presented him with a banner, he was received with a warm hand-shake by the famous General.

Unavoidable transportation difficulties kept the regular 15th Brigade delegation from arriving in Madrid in time to receive its own special banners from General Miaja. In its absence, the regular Anglo-American delegation at Madrid accepted the gifts in the name of the 15th Brigade. Both banners and gifts are now on their way back to the Brigade, in the capable hands of the delegation of ten headed by Lieutenant Harry Poll.

There was little speech-making. In its place the generous Madrileños prepared a program of entertainment. The music hands of the 112th, 40th, and 75th Brigades contributed their services to the festival. There were humor skits and stage dancing. Pretty girls sang the "Flamenco" as the audience joined in at intervals with the drawn-out traditional "Olé!"



FRANK RYAN

FASCIST PLOT TO GRAB FRENCH MOROCCO FOILED

News from the French Moroccan zone indicates that fascist elements have provoked a general rebellion with intentions of wresting control of this territory from France and establishing another fascist State in Africa.

The situation in the city of Fez was so serious as to have



made it necessary for the Government troops to march into the center of the city where they battled with several hundred fascists who occupied the Karuyne University, using it as a fort. The fascists were finally subdued by an encircling movement of the Government troops. Government planes were also called into action.

MILITARY RULE

The city of Medina is now under strict military rule following the defeat of the fascist uprising. During the fray 30 were wounded and many nationalist Arabs arrested.



The natives of Casablanca repulsed the fascist agitators from Port-Lyautey. During the fight four were reported killed and 22 injured. Eighty fascists have been detained in connection with the rebellion. Government authorities have taken special measures to institute order once again. Arrests have been made in Rabat and Marrakes.



CROWDED FACES in the balcony of the Calderon Theatre form the background for one of the numerous posters and signs which decorated the large hall. "The Popular Front of Madrid to the People's Front of the World!"

BRITISH YOUTH AID SPAIN

BY D. BURKE

(Member of Executive Committee, Scottish Youth Peace Council.)

Comrades in Spain are already very well acquainted with the character of the aid rendered to the Spanish people by the British Youth in the International Brigades. The intention of this article is to deal with the activities of the young people's organisations in Britain.

A Youth Foodship Committee for Spain was formed in October, 1936, and represented in it were the University Labour Federation, Young Communist League, Labour League of Youth, League of Nations Youth groups and an organisation called the Popular Youth Group. This committee organised three campaigns.

The results of these campaigns were—the first realised £1,500 in cash and about £1,000 in food; the second £700 in cash and £1,000 in food, while £500 in cash and £200 in food was realised in the third campaign.

The character of the activity indulged in called for great patience and energy on the part of the members of the youth organisations. It was customary to issue leaflets appealing for donations, to distribute them carefully round the workers houses and then to conduct a house to house canvass on a later evening to collect the donations. As examples of what this meant, during the second campaign 100,000 and 60,000 leaflets were distributed in this fashion in Glasgow and Edinburgh respectively.

Another form of work was the organising of socials and dances where, instead of a cash payment for admission, all attending brought gifts of food. At such functions souvenirs from Spain were auctioned and I have seen young workers pay as high as ten shillings for a souvenir, an indication of their high feeling as they could ill afford so much. Short ten to fifteen minute speeches on events in Spain

were also made at these functions.

Film Shows mass rallies were also organised and collections in food and cash taken at them. These activities continued until July 1937 when, as a result of the International Youth meeting at Paris, the youth organisations in Britain conducted a much more serious and wider discussion on how to aid the Spanish people.

It was considered that the main task confronting youth was to increase the number of youth organisations actively conducting aid for Spain, and that the Foodship Committee was too much confined to the "left" organisations.

The movement to broaden out was facilitated by a decision of the British Youth Peace Assembly against non-intervention and supporting the claims of the People's Government of Spain. After a discussion between the organisations concerned it was agreed that the Foodship Committee should become a special sub-committee of the B. Y. P. A. and that all the organisations affiliated to the B. Y. P. A. should be encouraged to participate in the work of the sub-committee.

Under the leadership of the B. Y. P. A. the movement to aid Spain has been much broader and more successful. Support is now being given to the activity by new organisations such as the National Council of Girls Clubs, Congregational Church Union, Methodist Church Youth (both the latter being Christian youth organisations) and many others.

The B. Y. P. A. initiated a campaign for 100,000 tins of milk (Fit for Babies) and the Archbishop of York, Bishop of Bristol, Sir Walter Layton, Sir A. Salter, Lord Cecil, Sir Stafford Cripps M. P., Duchess of Athol, and many others have donated cases of milk to the fund.

A loud-speaker van toured Great Britain organising mass rallies and street collections of money and tins of milk. The 10th. to the 17th. October was declared a special Self Denial Week in aid of the children of

Defense of Madrid

Madrid, heart of Spain,
throbbing with fevered pulses.
How fiercely your blood mounts,
from heat to heat.
Now you will never be able to sleep,
for, if Madrid sleeps,
she will want to wake up one day,
And there will be no dawn.
Don't forget the war, Madrid;
never forget that ahead
the eyes of the enemy
cast on you glances of death.
Hawks hover in your sky
and aim to swoop about
your red tiled roofs,
your streets, your brave people.
Guard, Madrid, against
the word, the thought, the whisper
that in the heart of Spain
one drop of blood dare turn to snow.
Fountains of courage and manliness
are yours as always.
Boundless rivers of wonder
have to stream through those fountains.
Let each quarter at its hour,
if that evil hour should come
—hour that shall not come—
stand firmer than
the strongest fortified place.
Men like castles;
the battlements their brows;
huge ramparts their arms,
gates that nobody penetrates.
Whoever cares to look into
the heart of Spain, let him come soon,
Madrid is a long journey.
Madrid knows how to defend herself
with hands, with feet and elbows,
Madrid can jostle and bite,
the wrath of Madrid stands up
straight and hard,
by the green water of the Tagus,
in Navalperal, in Sigüenza,
where whine bullets, bullets
that seek to change warm blood to ice.
Madrid, heart of Spain,
of soil within which there is,
if you search for it, a great hole,
deep, huge, overwhelming,
like a vast gorge waiting...
Only to give them death.

RAFAEL ALBERTI

Spain and during this week the youth throughout Britain denied themselves little luxuries and organised collections among their friends. The collections were sealed in Special envelopes and handed over to the B. Y. P. A. The figures for this campaign are not yet on hand but the organisers are

confident that they will reach the objective set.

Attention is now being directed to organising the work on more regular and consistent lines so as to ensure regular aid to the Spanish people. At some future date I hope to be able to give a further report of our successes in this respect.

THE SOVIET UNION 20 YEARS OLD TODAY

(Continued from page 1.)



THE SOVIET ARMY PARADES IN THE RED SQUARE



A FLOAT AT ONE OF THE SOVIET FESTIVALS



WHERE THE U. S. S. R. BUILDS DEFENSE WEAPONS

and supplies, sunk by the pirate fleets of international fascism. But still their aid continues unabated. The solidarity of the Soviet people and their representatives, who championed our cause at Geneva, will never be forgotten. The Soviet people have shown by their acts of solidarity and support to Spain that they justify the claim of Stalin who declared that "the Soviet people are the greatest bulwark of world peace".

Today, in paying homage to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, we must learn from their successes. The best tribute we can offer to the Soviet Union is the building of an unbreakable anti-fascist unity. The unity which is expressed in the Peoples Front — the weapon which guarantees our coming victory. A year ago today Madrid was saved from the fascist invaders because the people were united. This unity must now be made stronger than ever. Unity among the armed forces, unity in the rearguard. United support of the Peoples Front government. This is the road which will lead to great triumphs of the Peoples Front in all of Spain.

Long live the great Soviet people and their leader, Stalin!

Long live the heroic Spanish people and the Peoples Front which is leading us to victory!



A RUSSIAN WORKER, IN THE LAND OF JOBS FOR ALL



SOVIET WORKERS LISTENING TO A TALK ON SPAIN

FASCISTS CLOSE DOWN MORE SCHOOLS AS LOYAL SPAIN OPENS NEW ONES

The so-called "Bulletin of State", published in Burgos, on September 5th, contained a decree by virtue of which the following national and elementary schools were to be closed as from October 1st.: Astorga, La Toja, La Estrada, Bujeda, Soria, Priego, Tudela, Trujillo, Carmona, Cazalla, Cervera del Rio Alhama, Olivas, Fregenal de la Sierra, Guernica, Haro, Cinca, La Robla, Medina del Campo, Medina de Rioseco, Miranda de Ebro, Nerva, Peñaranda, Portugalete, Reinosa, Sanlúcar de Barrameda, Santoña, Tafalla, Toro, Utrera, Vélez Málaga, and Villanueva de Lugo.

The closing was ordered of the School Institutes of Seville and Malaga.

In the preamble of the decree it is stated that as the war is costing a lot of money and that as expenses of a civil nature must therefore be reduced, it was thought advisable to enforce these cuts in the department of education.

EDUCATION ON THIS SIDE

Almost on the same day there appeared in the "Gaceta de la República" a decree calling for the establishment in Barcelona, Valencia, and Madrid of six-monthly courses of intensive preparation in subjects of general education.

In the same number of "Gaceta" there were two other decrees of an analagous tendency.

In the midst of a civil and international struggle, at a time when it is defending its territory inch by inch against international traitors and foreign invaders, the Republic does not for a moment neglect educational problems. Schools are run for the soldiers on all the fronts. The moment a new village is captured, teachers are sent and school buildings are restored. Not one single educational establishment has been closed; on the contrary, many new ones have been opened. For the Republic knows that battles are won not only by force of arms, but equally by awakening ideas and sowing knowledge in the brains of the young and the illiterate. The new generation, whose initiation to life has been accompanied by the roar of battles and the sound of bombs, will be grave and firm. They will look at life not as a sport, but as a mission of obligations. They will know the full meaning of the words "duty" and "responsibility", which the frivolity of the later days of the monarchy and of the dictatorship had deprived of all their value...

FASCIST CULTURE

On the 12th of October of last year, the day known as the "Festival of the Race", General Millan Astray stood on the steps of the University of Salamanca and cried: "Down with Intelligence!" Yes. The Fascists hate intellect. They hate books and science. They hate the universities and the kindergartens, where the tiny children being to understand the things around them. They hate everything connected with reflection, meditation, criticism, logic. Their ideal is a people held in ignorance and slavery, downtrodden and superstitious.

They close institutes. They suppress schools. And the number of gaming-houses and taverns is greater than ever...



KIDS LIKE THESE are attending the newly-opened schools in Government Spain. No need to describe what fascism does to these smiles. You've seen the shrapnel-torn faces...

IN MEMORIAM



HARRY HYNES

Company Political Commissar
in the

**George Washington
Battalion**

Killed in action at Brunete
JULY-1937

Original Goya Plates Being Reprinted

The Calcographic Department of the Ministry of Education and Fine Arts in Madrid is engaged in reprinting two of Goya's series of plates. They have collected the original plates of the 'Desastres de la Guerra' (Disasters of War) and of 'Tauromaquia' (Bull Fighting). The plates are steel-faced. An edition is being made of five prints on Antique Japanese paper, fifteen on imperial Japanese paper and 130 on arches paper. These 150 prints will be for sale. It is probably the last edition which will be taken off the original plates. They have not been reprinted for a long time. The first complete edition of the Disasters of War was printed in 1863, and Goya died in 1828, so there was never a complete edition printed in his life-time.

NEXT WEEK:

"NO AXE TO GRIND"

By

DOROTHY PARKER

Read What One of America's Outstanding Satirists Has to Say About Spain After A Recent Stay Here.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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MADRID CELEBRATES DOUBLE ANNIVERSARY

For the past two weeks the population of Madrid has been celebrating a double anniversary: that of its own year of the glorious defense of Madrid, and the 20th year of the successes of Socialism in the Soviet Union.

A year ago November 7, Franco was waiting on his white horse at the gates of Madrid to gallop into the city, and, as he boasted, was prepared to "drink coffee and cognac in the Puerta del Sol".

November 7, 1917, 20 years ago, the masses of oppressed Russian people rose up and once and for all seized the reins of power. The coincidence that these two dates of the Spanish and Russian people's historic battles in defense of their liberties is considered very significant to all organizations of political, trade union, military, or social importance in Madrid. Each have contributed in one way or another to the widespread enthusiasm in the celebration of the halting of fascism at Madrid's doorsteps and to the general tribute paid to the Soviet Union. Many festivities were conducted by these organizations, including dancing, meetings, parties and the showing of Soviet films such as "Chapayev", etc.

IN FESTIVE MOOD

The thousands of banners and decorations that adorn the buildings and streets have given Madrid an unusually colorful appearance. On the huge

red streamers that are strung across the main streets, inscribed in large white letters, are slogans of honor and gratitude to the heroic antifascist fighters of Madrid, of Spain, and of the world united antifascist front as represented by the International Brigades. From almost all the poles along the borders of the sidewalk, in the centers of the main streets, and along the sides of the broad Madrid

paseos wave Republican flags and Red flags with the hammer and sickle in white. Pictures of the people's leaders — Negrin, General Miaja, Azafia, Diaz, "Pasionaria", Lister, "Campesino", and others — are seen between the two flags. A large red star is often the background of these pictures. Children can be seen with red star emblems on their lapel. The emblems bear a salutation to the Soviet people.

In both sides of the three arches of the huge arched structure that stands on the square of the Plaza de la Independencia, the loyal Madrileños have conspicuously arranged large portraits of Soviet leaders. On one side facing the Puerta del Sol are the pictures of Stalin, Voroshilov and Litvinov. On the opposite side are the portraits of Lenin, Kallin and Molotov.

(Continued on page 8.)



MADRID'S FAMOUS ARCH on the Plaza de la Independencia, once a gate to Madrid, erected in 1778, which still bears the scars of Napoleon's cannon-fire of the "Día de Mayo" of 1808. Here it is as it appeared on November 7, when all of Loyal Spain celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Russian Revolution.

IRISH VOLUNTEERS IN SPAIN

The story of the Irish in this War antedates the International Brigades. To Bill Scott, whose father soldiered in James Connolly's Citizen Army in the Irish Rising of 1916, falls the honor of being the first Irish fighter in Spain. He was with a Catalan column on the Aragon Front, some weeks before the International Brigades were formed. Incidentally, he never reached the Irish Unit. From the Thaelmann Battalion he went to Manguada's Brigades and was eventually invalided home, wounded. Other Irishmen fought in the Dumont and Thaelmann Battalions. Tommy Patton of Mayo and Bill Barry, late of Melbourne and formerly of Dublin, fell in action at Boadilla del Monte, early in December.

The first large contingent of Irish arrived at the Base in the middle of December, and were in action a week later with the XIV Brigade at Cordoba, and later at Madrid. At the end of January the survivors of all these formations were drafted

into the XV Brigade which had just been formed.

The Irish Unit was representative of all Ireland. Belfast and Derry sent their sons as well as Dublin and Cork, for the antifascist cause bridged Partition. All parties and professions were represented. Communist, Socialist Labour Party members and Republicans; dock-workers and teachers, farm-labourers and city-clerks. Their Commander was Frank Ryan, Irish Republican Army veteran, and a leader of the Left Wing Republican and Labour movement in Ireland.

They came primarily to fight Fascism, enemy not merely of the people of Spain but of liberty and progress the world over. They had added incentive in that a careerist ex-General, discredited in Ireland, had induced a body of Irishmen to go to fight for the traitor Generals, "in defence of Christianity". Irish honor thus besmirched they would redeem. Irish sympathy thus misrepresented they would express aright. So they threw their bo-

dies as battle-gages into the conflict in Spain.

The Unit fought in two Sections, and at one period there was a Third Section. While the First Section was on the Madrid Front in January a Second Section which was being formed at the Base was drafted to reinforce the Lincolns, not yet at that time at Battalion strength. Subsequently, a Third Section was for three months on the Cordoba Front with the 86th Brigade.

Contrary to opinions held by narrow nationalists, it was easy and natural for Irish and British workers to unite in the common struggle against Fascism. The unity forged between them on the battle-fields of Spain will have far-reaching results in their respective countries, in days to come. It was fortunate and fitting too that military exigencies should have brought the Second Irish Section to serve with the Lincoln Battalion. The Irish have played an important part in the history of America, and have contributed much to the

advancement of the American labor movement. And, there were already a number of Irish exiles, and Irish-Americans and Irish-Canadians with the Lincoln Battalion. Paul Burns, Boston labor journalist and Irish Republican Congress leader, afterwards twice wounded in action; Michael Blaser, better known in New York as Mickey Brown (subsequently killed at Jarama); Patrick R. McLoughlin, formerly of the Clan na Gael in New York; Stuart (Paddy) O'Neill of Vancouver (killed at Brunete), and veteran Joe Kelly.

Of the original members of that Second Irish Section which went into action with the Lincolns at Jarama, the survivors include the three Power brothers of Waterford, and the three Flaherty brothers of Boston, gallant fighters all. Peter O'Connor holds the record for the Irishman who came unhurt through the most engagements. Dinny Holden, 56 year old soldier from Carlow who "deserted" so often from the rear to the front lines, that he was eventually allowed to remain there; "Dublin" Hayes, the canny veteran whom every Section Commander wanted to have with him — all these and a few others survive.

Charley Donnelly, University student from Tyrone, young revolutionary poet and working-class militant, fell a few yards from the Fascist trenches in that terrible charge of the Lincolns on February 27. Hugh Bonar, rugged Donegal fighter, and Liam Tumillean who stowed away from Belfast, and hitch-hiked across Britain to "be with the boys in Spain"; Bill Henry, Belfast Socialist, a Company Commander — these and other Irish died in action at Jarama.

Outstanding among the Irish was "Kit" Conway, 38 year old Tipperary fighter. He had fought in the I. R. A. in the Anglo-Irish War of 1920-21, and subsequently joined the Irish Free State Army to carry out revolutionary work there. He had attained the rank of Battalion Commander before



THE IRISH POSE for a picture. Above is a group of Irish fighters in the Lincoln Battalion, taken while Lincolns were holding their long trench-vigil on the Jarama front. A number of these Irish comrades are now dead.

his activities were discovered and his resignation demanded. After a brief period in emigration in the United States, he returned to become one of the militants in the Communist Party of Ireland. He was in command of the First Irish Section at Cordoba in December, at Majadahonda in January, at Jarama in February. He was a competent leader, courageous almost to the point of recklessness. More than once, he exposed himself unduly in action to encourage some youngster whose nerve was wilting under a baptism of fire. The Irish suffered their greatest loss when "Kit" died of wounds received while directing the defence of Pingarron Hill on February 12.

Among other Irishmen who died there in those first days of the Fascist offensive was Rev. R. M. Hilliard, the "Boxing Parson" from Killarney who handled a rifle in the ranks until the gunners of a Fascist tank hit him at point-blank range.

Frank Edwards, school-teacher dismissed by the Catholic Bishop of Waterford for working-class activities, was wounded in the side by shrapnel at Las Rozas in January. He walked two hundred yards back, called for a stretcher for another wounded comrade, and collapsed from loss of blood. Two months later, he was one of the Third Irish Section on the Cordoba Front. Here on one occasion, he and Joe Monks of Dublin remained alone in a position to face and break a charge of Moors by slinging grenades into their ranks. Jack Nalty, Dublin rank and file leader and noted athlete, had one arm smashed and was wounded in the other and in the chest at Lopera in December. He walked unaided three kilos back to a dressing station, and recovered to fight again through the Jarama campaign.

The Irish also played their part in the great Brunete offensive in July. Among the prominent comrades who fell during this month were Michael Kelly, young London-Irish leader, and William Beattie and William Laughlin, two workers, of different creeds, who at one time had been in opposing sectarian factions in

their native Belfast, until the common exploitation of the working-class showed them the road to working class-unity, and eventually to the front lines of the fight against Fascism. Here too died Bill Davis whose clenched fist shot up in salute as a machine-gun riddled him at the storming of

Villanueva de la Canada. Paddy Duff of Dublin, Machine-gun Commander, saved his own life and that of stretcher-bearers at Brunete, when —wounded in the leg—he rolled into a shell-hole, and yelled the First Aid men back out of the zone of hurtling steel. Not even Tom Jones of

LETTER FROM SPAIN

ADDRESSED TO ALABAMA

Lincoln Battalion,
International Brigades,
November Something, 1937.

Dear Brother at home:

We captured a wounded Moor today.
He was just as dark as me.
I said, Boy, what you been doin' here
Fightin' against the free?

He answered something in a language
I couldn't understand.
But somebody told me he was sayin'
They nabbed him in his land

And made him join the fascist army
And come across to Spain.
And he said he had a feelin'
He'd never get back home again.

He said he had a feelin'
This whole thing wasn't right.
He said he didn't know
The folks he had to fight.

And as he lay there dying
In a village we had taken,
I looked across to Africa
And seed foundations shakin'.

Cause if a free Spain wins this war,
The colonies, too, are free —
Then something wonderful'll happen
To them Moors as dark as me.

I said, I guess that's why old England
And I reckon Italy, too,
Is afraid to let a workers' Spain
Be too good to me and you —

Cause they got slaves in Africa —
And they don't want 'em to be free.
Listen, Moorish prisoner, hell!
Here, shake hands with me!

I knelt down there beside him,
And I took his hand —
But the wounded Moor was dyin'
And he didn't understand.

Salud,

Johnny

LANGSTON HUGHES

Wexford, devil-dare leader of the First Aid Section, who ever insisted on dressing a wounded man where he fell, dared disobey Duff's command! At Villanueva, too Paddy Murphy's chivalry almost cost him his life, when he tried to save women and children whom the Fascists were driving before them as cover in a sortie.

Death took its toll again in the victorious Aragon offensive in August. Among those who fell at Belchite was Jim Woulff of Limerick, killed by a grenade at the very moment the town was captured. Peter Daly, I. R. A. veteran from Wexford, wounded in the Anglo-Irish war, wounded at Jarama in February, wounded again at Cordoba in April, rose from the ranks, promoted for bravery in the field, until he attained the rank of Battalion Commander. He was the ideal working-class officer whose comradeship with his men did not lessen his command over them. He fell at the head of his Battalion at the storming of Purburell Hill, on the Aragon Front, on August 26. Not since the death of "Kit" Conway, who was of the same stamp, did the Irish Unit suffer such a heavy blow. Peter Daly's comrade, Paddy O'Daire of Donegal, still with us, has also won successive promotions for bravery and leadership in battle. He is now a Battalion Commander. With him others of the original Irish Unit survive. Thus, after almost a year's war in Spain "The Irish still remain". And the gaps are being filled. New recruits arrive — veterans and youths, men of different, and differing parties — here united in the common struggle.

Irish Fascist intervention in Spain ignominiously collapsed when the duped Catholic rank and file revolted on discovering that they were fighting not for Christianity but for Fascism. The Irish in the International Brigades remain — for they fight for the same cause for which they fought at home, for the overthrow of the enemy which is attempting to enslave not only the people of Spain but the whole human race. And so while there is an International Brigade there will be Irish fighters in Spain.

C. Q.



SHELL-SCARRED: A photograph taken of the world-renowned Cybele statue in Madrid, just after fascist shells had mutilated the jaws of one of the guardian lions.

I want to say first that I came to Spain without my axe to grind. I didn't bring messages from anybody, nor greetings to anybody. I am not a member of any political party. The only group I have ever been affiliated with is that not especially brave little band that hid its nakedness of heart and mind under the out of date garment of a sense of humour. I heard someone say, and so I said it too, that ridicule is the most effective weapon. I don't suppose I ever really believed it, but it was easy and comforting, and so I said it. Well, now I know. I know that there are things that never have been funny, and never will be. And I know that ridicule may be a shield, but it is not a weapon.

I was puzzled, as you may have been, about Spain. I read in our larger newspapers that

here was a civil war, with the opposing factions neatly divided into reds and whites—rather as if they were chessmen. Even I could figure out that there is something not quite right when Moors are employed to defend Christianity. Since I have been here, I have heard what the people in the streets say. Not many of them call it the "war". They speak of it as the "invasion". Theirs is the better word.

There cannot be, in all the world, any place like the city of Madrid today. It has been under siege for nearly a year. You read about besieged cities in medieval days and you say, how awful things must have been, thank goodness they don't happen now. It has happened in Madrid and it goes on happening. In a city as big and as beautiful and as modern as Washington, D. C.

NO AXE

DOROTHY

The dispatches say that there is not much doing on the Madrid front now—there is very little activity. It is what is called a lull. But all day long you hear the guns, the dull boom of the big guns and the irritable cackle of machine-guns. And you know that gunners no longer need to shoot just for practice. When there is firing, that means there is blood and blindness and death.

And the streets are crowded, and the shops are open, and the people go about their daily living. It isn't tense and it isn't hysterical. What they have is not morale, which is something created and bolstered and directed. It is the sure steady spirit of those who know what the fight is about and who know that they must win.

In spite of all the evacuation, there are still nearly a million people here. Some of them — you may be like that, yourself — won't leave their homes and their possessions, all the things they have gathered together through the years. They are not at all dramatic about it. It is simply that anything else than the life they have made for themselves is inconceivable to them.

Yesterday I saw a woman who lives in the poorest quarter of Madrid. It has been bombed twice by the Fascists; her house is one of the few left standing. She has seven children. It has often been suggested to her that she and the children leave Madrid for a safer place. She dismisses such ideas easily and firmly. Every six weeks, she says, her husband has 48 hours leave from the front. Naturally,

he wants to come home to see her and the children... She, and each one of the seven, are calm and strong and smiling. It is a typical Madrid family.

There are fifty thousand babies still here. All food is scarce, and dairy products are almost memories. But the Republican Government, all over the city, has stations where a mother may get milk and eggs and cereals for her baby, regularly without delay. If she has any money, she may buy them at cost. If she hasn't any she is given them. Doctors say that the little children of Madrid are better nourished than they ever were in the old days.

The bigger children play in the streets, just as happily and just as noisily as the children in America. That is, they play after school hours. For during siege and under shell fire, education in Republican Spain goes on. I do not know where you can see a finer thing.

Six years ago, when the royal romp, Alphonso, left his



IT HAS HAPPENED in Madrid and it goes on happening.

fascist bombardment.

TO GRIND

PARKER

... racing cars and his racing stables and also left, by popular request, his country, there remained twenty-eight million people. Of them, twelve million were completely illiterate. It is said that Alphonso himself had been taught to read and write, but he had not troubled to bend the accomplishments to the reading of statistics nor the signing of appropriations for schools.

Six years ago, almost half the population of this country was illiterate. The first thing that the Republican Government did was to recognise this hunger, the starvation of the people for education. Now there are schools even in the tiniest, poorest villages; more schools in a year than ever were in all the years of the reigning kings. And still more are being established every day. I have seen a city bombed by night, and the next morning the people rose and went on with the completion of their schools. Here in Madrid, as well

as in Valencia, a workers' Institute is open. It is a college, but not a college where rich young men may go to make friends with other rich young men who may be valuable to them in business with them later. It is a college where workers, forced to start as children in fields and factories, may study to be teachers or doctors or lawyers or scientists, according to their gifts. Their intensive university course takes two years. And while they are studying, the Government pays their families the money they would have been earning.

In the schools for young children, there is none of the dread thing you have heard so much about -- depersonalisation. Each child has, at the Government's expense, an education as modern and personal as a privileged American school child has at an accredited progressive school. What the Spanish Republican Government has done for education would be a magnificent achievement, even in days of peace, when money is easy and supplies are endless. But these people are doing it under fire...

The Government takes care, too, of the unfortunates of war. There are a million refugee children in Spain. A million is an easy number to say. But how can you grasp what it means? Three hundred thousand of them are in the homes of families and seven hundred thousand are in children's colonies. When it can, the Government wants to have all in colonies. I hope that will happen, because I have seen some



STAYING CLOSE to the refugio, these women and children are fearful to venture back to their homes again lest another fascist air-raid bring them the same terror and death and destruction that they have just witnessed and escaped.

of the colonies. There is no dreadful orphan asylum quality about them. I never saw finer children -- free and growing and happy. One colony was in a seaside resort, near Valencia. There were sixty children, from four to fourteen, who had been going to a school in Madrid. And the Fascist planes had bombed the school...

It was amazing to see how many of these children could draw and draw well -- and it was heartening to see how their talent was encouraged by the teachers. When they first came to the colony, the children drew the things that were nearest and deepest to them -- they drew planes and bursting bombs and houses in flames. You could see by the dreadful perfection of detail, how well they knew their subjects. Now they are drawing flowers and apples and sail boats and little houses with

smoke coming out of the chimneys. They are well children now.

And in Valencia, a few miles away, the Fascist planes come over and the bombs drop, and so there will be more children who will draw planes and flames and fragments of bodies blown in the air. That is if there are any children left...

NO FUNNY STORIES

I can't get any pleasing variety into this talk. I can't tell you amusing anecdotes of the boys in the trenches. I don't think there are any such stories. The men who fight for Republican Spain, the men, who in less than a year have come from a mob wearing overalls and carrying sticks to a formidable disciplined army, are

(Continued on page 8.)



... worker's home on the outskirts of the city, just after a

BREAKING THE BACK OF REACTION IN NEVADA

Dear Comrade Editor:

Enclosed is a copy of part of a letter from home, which I think might be of interest to the readers of the "Volunteer"

In explanation, the thing which is of importance is that this territory has always been particularly difficult for labor organizations of any kind. Nevada has long been the last stand of the rugged individualists, having a mining industry which fluctuated wildly between bankruptcy and booms, a cattle and sheep-raising industry which depended as much on the vagaries of the market as on the vagaries of the weather, and finally, a pride in the maintenance of the "wide-open West" tradition. While Boca is near the California state-line, the action described in this letter proved an opening wedge for the CIO and militant white-collar unions in Nevada.

M. M.

DEAR M.

I'm starting to school on a shoestring. I worked part of the summer but didn't make any dough to speak of, which I shall explain.

A new dam is being built at Boca, where the Little Truckee River meets the Truckee about 28 miles west of Reno. I went to work up there

as a laborer about June 1, getting fifty cents an hour for a forty-hour week. A cheap outfit from Omaha, the Geo. Condon Construction Co., was in charge and there to make all they could, no matter how. They docked us time when they moved the shovels, etc.; 10 minutes here, 15 minutes there, and when Saturday afternoon rolled round they came to you and said, "Say, you have three hours and 40 minutes yet to go before you have your 40 hours in. Do you want to put it in tomorrow?" Well, what the hell could you say? You want to get paid for 40 hours, even if you have to put in 45 hours over a seven-day spread.

We stayed at the company's barracks and cookhouse, which cost \$1.25 a day, because there was no place else to stay, and the company made plenty on that too. Some of us boys got tired of all this, so hearing that some of the miners who were drilling a diversion tunnel on the job were CIO men, we contacted them. They were thinking of starting a local, so we said we would help get the ball rolling. We talked to almost all the men on the job privately, and they were willing to join up with us and get a local started. The inevitable fly in the ointment, the superintendent of the job, told us if we organized he would

shut the job down. We organized just the same.

We sent down to Frisco and got an organizer up, and in five hours we had 90 % of the men on the job signed up. The superintendent heard of it, came over to see and when we told him we had 90 % of the men signed up he didn't say a word. The next day at twelve noon we were informed by our respective bosses that we were all done, to get our money. We did, but we stayed in the bunkhouses. They tried to have us thrown out, but we wouldn't be thrown. They tried to scare us with the law, but we wouldn't scare. We were orderly and well behaved, so the law didn't have a thing they could pin on us.

Then the blow-off. They made a contract with the A. F. of L., dated it back, and shipped 67 men into the job, without telling them of the condition that existed. The men came up from Sacramento all prepared to work, and we were waiting for them. We had received news of their coming by one of the fellows that had heard of it at the quarantine station at Truckee. There were only 22 of us, but boy! we had the courage of 122. We all agreed to fight until we were carried away. When they arrived they had the sheriff and 17 deputies as bodyguards. We had a picket-line which was our first line of defense, about 10 guys, and then the second line which was composed of the rest of the fellows.

The organizer had a new Ford which he drove at about 50 in to the line of oncoming cars bringing the new men. They all had to swerve and stop, and he very effectively tied them in knots. Then Red Adams, the president of our local, climbed on the top of a car and told the men of the condition that existed and how determined we were that they nor no one else was going to take our jobs, and if they wanted to try it, we were ready. We were armed with pick handles, pieces of pipe, horseshoes or anything else we could pick up, and we meant business.

After Red's speech, a big fellow blurted out, "Who's going to stop me?" and charged the first line. One of our fellows smacked him on the chin with his fist, another hit him on the back of the head, a third kicked his feet out from under him — and he didn't come to for an hour. I thought sure this would start it, but not one of the fakers stepped up to give him a hand. The deputies all ran and got behind cars, despite the fact that they were armed, because the A. F. of L. fakers were too scattered to put up a good fight. The fakers all drew back and had a conference, and decided to go back to Sacramento immediately. Of course we were relieved and happy that they had elected to do the right thing by us and we thanked them. They wished us luck and left.

On Aug. 10 the company started negotiations with us to open the job again. We finally came to terms and got a contract for the duration of the job. The only catch for me was that I didn't get back to work soon enough before school started, but I couldn't walk out on the guys and find another job.

I don't know how much you know of the CIO, but here's why I'm for it. In the first place, the men as a body run the local, not the officers that you elect. No agreement can be signed without the consent of the body as a whole. In the A. F. of L. the officers can sign any agreement for the men without putting it to a vote; consequently the officers can and do sell out their own men — the rats! In the CIO the initiation fee is \$1.25 and the dues are \$1.25 a month, no matter what you are, laborer, dragline operator, miner, etc. The fakers charge all the way up to \$1000, according to who you are, and the dues per month run from \$2 on up — what a racket!

We're accused of being Reds, radicals, Communists, and everything else you can think of, but by God, if belonging to

(Continued on page 8.)



SPANISH SOLDIERS celebrating the double anniversary of the Russian Revolution and the successful defense of Madrid.

LETTERS from HOME

"—And That Democracy
Will Reign Again."

The following letter is from the Secretary of the Cardiff and District Unemployed Workers' Association, affiliated with the Cardiff Trades Council and Labour Party, to one of the members of the British Battalion of the 15th International Brigade.

"Dear Comrade: Let me thank you most sincerely for the greetings you send from the Cardiff comrades in the International Brigades and yourself, and let me send you the best wishes of the members of our Association in return.

"We all realize what depends on the result of the war in which you are engaged, and we are all very hopeful that you will be successful. We realize that should your opponents be victorious it would mean the end of the present British Government's opposition, and the weapon in their hands with which to beat us down. They would then be in the position to force us to do the very things we are at present opposed to doing, by forcing us to fight to save their interests at home and abroad.

"We also realize that unity among all working class organizations is required to defeat the National Govt's present policy. As we are at present — divided, ununited — we are only defeating ourselves and giving the Government the chances they have been wanting. Were all organizations united we should be in a position to do something in regards to the present cost of living, which is soaring sky-high—15 per cent increase in three months.

"The question of unity has again been brought up at the Labour Party conference but was, I am sorry to say, heavily defeated; and also one of the champions of the United front threatened with expulsion from the Labour Party. That is the kind of thing we

BARCELONA NERVES

Neither fools nor children any longer,
Those ways, traits, gone and away
That once made life a luck-game, death a stranger,
We're going on.

Dynamo-driven city waiting bombers,
Roadways barricade-unpaved, fear
In the torn minds, the mind remembers
What it's all for...

Death means the girl's corpse warm-alive when buried;
Death means the retching brothels, where on black
Death-tide, death-fear, an army of boys is carried
To a pox-wreck.

And life's a matter of beating this, of breaking
By own hardness, and a held hand, out
From fury, frustration, fear, the waiting, the shouting,
The hate of fate.

Neither fools nor children, we who are joining
(Twenty years ago I knew war's face)
We'll make what wrecks these others into our gaining,
Into our choice.

T. H. WINTINGHAM

September, 1936.

here are faced with, and until the rank and file change the Personnel, this state of affairs will continue.

"On the question of non-intervention the opinion of the members is that the policy is a farce, done to assist the fascists' plans.

"Had it been a Fascist government, and the people fighting for control, there would have been no talk of non-intervention, but help would have been sent quickly.

"Well, Comrade, we are very glad to have heard from you and to know that you are alright and that Comrade M. is on the road to recovery. Remember, we are all with you in your declaration that you are going to win and that democracy will reign again.

"With sincere good wishes, I remain, for and on behalf of the members of the Association,

Yours fraternally, F. J. R. COLES.

A Nine-Year-Old Writes to his Father.

The following four letters are typical of a dozen or more written by a nine-year-old Birmingham boy to his father,

fighting here, over a period of almost a year. When you read these notes try to imagine the lop-sided, uncertain scrawl of a child, with all the curious misspellings, and the comical halts. "Peter writes", his father explains, "very much the way a three-day-old colt walks."



TEACHER: "90,000 soldiers plus 25,000 technicians. How many Italian soldiers does that make?"
CHICO: "40,000 volunteers!"

May 11th, 1937.

Dear father, Evry Body in England will be happy after 12 o'clock on May the 11th it will be coronation day. For before you left England Edward VIII left, the ex King. The king who is going to be crown by

the Archbishop of Canterbury will be George VI.

The wether in England has bean fairly bad it has bean wet and miarabul the last few days. All houses and streets and horses are trimmed up for coronation day the 12th of May remember if you do come back your King will be King George VI, and I can swim.

Sinded. —PETER.

★

June 23rd, 1937.

Dear Dad. I am very sorry you have got wounded rigt through the calfe of your left leg. Well here is some more good news to tell you that I can ride my bike. I learnt in five minutes, uncle Jack taught me how to ride.

I think I have told you I am in the boy's brigade and I am to camp August week we go to wales it is only seven shillings and four pence to go it would cost more if mom took me.

Sind. —PETER.

★

September 25th, 1937.

Dear dad. I swam in a gala on Sept 24 and came third in a race. I saw Charlie Talor dive and his diving has gone of a lot. And last week I saw Pete at a gala and spoke to him and he said you better hurry up and come back. I have something to tell you. I can swim 16 lengths and jump of top board and I received you badge.

Signed. —PETER.

★

October 17th, 1937.

Dear dad. You may know there was a spanish flag day in England mom and me sold in it. Now mom said she would like to come to Spane for a holiday after the war is over and I agreed.

Will you please send me a Spanish pence.

Mom said you are very brave to go.

Singed. —PETER to dad.

Madrid Celebrates Double Anniversary

(Continued from page 1.)

Elaborate and painstakingly-decorated floats ride all around the city all day long. Every trolley has five small Republican flags waving from the rods that connect the trolley pole with the street electric wires. Most public and many private buildings have been decorated with flags, banners, pictures, and large signs with antifascist and Popular Front slogans. Along the iron fence-work of the famous Madrid park "El Retiro" has been strung a huge red streamer, almost half a block long, greeting the Soviet Union on its 20th Anniversary. It pledges to carry on the fight against fascism. Among the buildings most attractively dressed up is the Bank of Bilbao, near the Puerta del Sol. Story-high paintings demonstrate the difference between the militiaman of the early days of the war and the People's Army soldier of today. On one side are poorly dressed militiamen with rifles in their hands behind a sand-bag parapet waiting to stop the fascists. On the other are shown the new uniformed People's Army soldiers charging with tanks, artillery, and aviation support.

Additional homage was paid the Soviet Union by an official change in the name of one of Madrid's streets, from "Avenida de Peñalver" to "Avenida de la Unión Soviética".

All of the Madrid daily papers devoted extra pages, and several put out special Anniversary numbers, in commemoration of the double Anniversary.

Americans all over Spain have also celebrated. Among one group of Americans, in the afternoon of Sunday, November 7th, there was a baseball and football game. After that they had a potato and a sack race. Packages of Lucky Strikes were distributed to the winners. After a good dinner in the evening, they planned a singing festival around a blazing camp-fire.

J. T.

NO AXE TO GRIND

BY DOROTHY PARKER

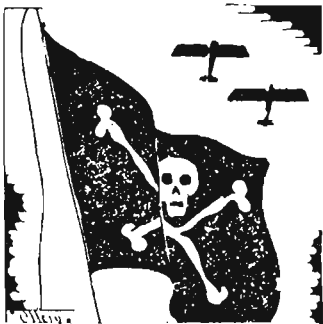
(Continued from page 3.)

no gangling lambs, endearingly bewildered as to what is which front and who is on whose side. These are thinking men, knowing what they do, and what they must go on doing.

They are fighting for more than their lives. They are fighting for the chance to live them, for a chance for their children, for the decency and peace of the future.

Their fight is the biggest thing, certainly, that we shall see in our time, but it is not a good show. This is no gay and handsome war, with brass bands and streaming banners. These men do not need such assurances. They are not mad glamorous adventurers, they are not reckless young people, plunged into a chaos. I don't think there will be any lost generation after this war.

But, I, as an onlooker, am bewildered. While I was in Valencia the Fascists raided it four times. If you are going to be in an air raid at all, it is better for you—if it happens at night. Then it is unreal, it is almost beautiful, it is like



a ballet with the scurrying figures and the great white shafts of the searchlights. But when a raid comes in the daytime, then you see the faces of the people, and it isn't unreal any longer. You see the terrible resignation on the faces of old women, and you see little children wild with terror...

In Valencia, last Sunday morning, a pretty, bright Sunday morning, five German planes came over and bombed the quarter down by the port. It is a poor quarter, the place where the men who work on the docks live, and it is, like

all poor quarters, congested. After the planes had dropped their bombs, there wasn't much left of the places where so many families had been living. There was an old, old man, who went up to every one he saw and asked, please, had they seen his wife, please would they tell him where his wife was. There were two little girls who saw their father killed in front of them, and were trying to get past the guards, back to the still crumbling, crashing houses to find their mother. There was a great pile of rubble, and on the top of it a broken doll and a dead kitten. It was a good job to get those. They were ruthless enemies to Fascism.

I have seen the farms outside of Valencia—the lovely green quiet farms. There is soil so fertile, since the Government has irrigated it, that it yields three harvests a year. So hospitable that oranges and beans and potatoes and corn and pomegranates all grow in one field. I have seen the people in the country and in the cities, wanting only to go about their lives, only to secure the future of their children. They ask only as much as you have, because they are people like you, they want to get up from their tables and go to their beds, to wake to a quiet morning, and the sending of their children off to school. They don't think of accumulated money. They want to do their own work in self respect and peace. They want the same thing that you have—they want to live in a democracy. And they will fight for it, and they will win.

But in the mean time it makes you sick to think of it. That these people who pulled themselves up from centuries of oppression and exploitation cannot go on to decent living, to peace and progress and civilization, without the murder of their children, and the blocking of their way because two men—two men—want more power. It is incredible, it is fantastic, it is absolutely beyond all belief... except that it is true.

IN MEMORIAM



MILTON HERNDON

Machine Gun Section
Commander
in the

Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion

Killed in Action
at Fuentes de Ebro
OCTOBER-1937

Breaking the Back of Reaction in Nevada

(Continued from page 6.)

the CIO is communistic, I'm the reddest, radicalst Communist you ever saw! We're just as American as the flag, and a hell of a lot more so than the fakers. We're ten times as democratic — maybe that's why Willie Green froths at the mouth and calls us Communists. We're showing the country a thing or two, and the men like it when they find out the facts.

When you get back I'll tell you more. This writing business isn't what you'd call down my alley; I can tell you informally much better.

GEORGE

NEXT WEEK:

SPANISH STUDENTS AND THE WAR

An account of the role of Spanish University students (F. U. E.) in the Spanish struggles from 1922 to the present day.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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SPANISH STUDENTS AND THE WAR

Spain has always had two types of student: those whose studies were pursued in order to acquire a title which would serve them as an adornment, a title generally secured through the influence



FRANCISCO TARANCON

One of the first students to enlist in the popular uprising against the fascists. Though hit by 14 fascist bullets and has a completely disabled right arm as a result of the wounds, he has insisted on resuming his cultural activities among the youth.

of their fathers; and those sons of petit bourgeois people and of workers, who understood the sacrifices of their parents, and who studied in order to learn, to become useful to their country and to humanity.

These two types of students were represented by two organizations. The first, whose principal diversion was in having good times, had a sort of fascist character. This organization was forever putting obstacles in the path of learning for the working peoples' sons and daughters.

Student Leader Recounts for the VOLUNTEER the Role of Spanish University Students in the Spanish Struggles from 1922 to the Present Day

The organization of students who were hard-working and serious, on the other hand, acquired the character of a student Union from the moment it took upon itself the job of bettering itself and the opportunities of real students in the universities. Cultural and sport activities were an integral part of the latter organization, known as the Federacion Universitaria Escolar (F. U. E.) the Federation of University Students.

FOUGHT DE RIVERA

The F. U. E. was organized in 1922, and it fought unstintingly against the Dictatorship of Primo de Rivera. It was one of the outstanding liberal organizations of that period in Spain's history, one that contributed much to the collapse of that dictatorship. Its activities included a number of student strikes, which culminated in the strike against the Faculty of Madrid, during which the students fought against the police for several hours, answering the cops' pistol fire by throwing bricks and iron bars from the red-tiled roofs of the University buildings. The then Director General of Security, General Mola - now dead - enforced a cruel repression against the students, arresting many and closing the University, impeding and thus ending

the course. But the battle was won. In a short time the Dictatorship had to repress all of Spain. In two years the Monarchy also fell, after the April 12th elections in which the Spanish people unmistakably made known their real desires and aspirations.

14 YEARS LATER

On the 18th of July, 1936, the traitorous generals rose against the government, attempting to place it in the hands of Hitler and Mussolini, who were not content with having enslaved their own countries, but wished to do the same with a people which has always fought savagely for its independence. These generals did

not count on the resistance of the Spanish people, the peasants and the workers. All good Spaniards rose against these self-styled "nationalists" to smash fascism in Spain. In this crisis the students could not fail to take part. They, who had always fought against oppression, promptly placed themselves alongside of their brothers from the fields and the factories.

The F. U. E. immediately decreed a mobilization of students for the Peoples Army. Despite the occurrence of the rebellion at that season of the year when there were no classes, 90 per cent of its members responded to the call. There were, 1,200 students who volunteered, with the place of mobilization only in Madrid.

MANY ADVENTUROUS

This mobilization took into account the knowledge of each student, age and sex. And the following sections were formed: artillery, infantry, sanitary service, shoemakers supply department technical and auxiliary services. There were many students who were so adventurous that they could not for long be content with one type of work; these drifted from one section to another, seeking places where their knowledge and abilities would be of greatest use. Others joined up despite parental opposition and many other obstacles.

One young student, Concepción,



MANUEL BALGASON

Present General Secretary of the F. U. E. of Madrid (Federation of University Students).

(Continued on page 6)

CHINESE GENERAL SEES WORLD PEACE THREATENED; SPEAKS OVER MADRID RADIO

"The Chinese people for a long time have wanted a United China in order to fight against the Japanese invaders", stated the Chinese General, Yang Hu Cheng, Governor of Shansi Province, when, recently, he was in Madrid. In the bomb-proof studio of Madrid's EAR, two stories below the street, the General answered questions over the radio on China and Spain. He agreed to do so because, he said, he realized that in these countries is being settled the immediate future of the world—peace or war.

General Yang, it will be remembered, played an important role in the Sian Fu Movement last December 12th which accelerated the movement for an All-China united front for the struggle against Japanese aggression in China. The General, himself, has for a number of years been in the forefront of the Chinese People's demand for internal unity.

The General said, "The motive of the peace movement on December 12th last year at Sian Fu was in harmony with the wishes of the Chinese people to make China united. And the result of this movement was a united China".

He then added, "It was the cry of the Chinese people which was responsible for Sian Fu movement. Though this accident met many new obstacles, in the end it succeeded with its first desire to stop the Civil War in China. It was not only a strong movement for an internal peace front to oppose Japan in China, but it also was a movement to strengthen the peace forces of the world. Afterwards the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party made their peace and worked together for an All-China united front.

"The first step in the move-

ment for a Chinese united front was for the Kuomintang and the Communist Party of China to resolve their differences and to adopt a common program against the Japanese. And I wish to emphasize the importance of the necessity of resolving those differences and the adoption of a common program against the Japanese if our united front was to be successful."

In answering the questions as to his purposes in coming to Spain, and as to whether he thought there was any connection between the Japanese invasion of China and the Italo-German invasion of Spain, General Yang told his radio listeners that his purpose in coming to Spain is a twofold one. "First of all", he said, "the war in China is so similar to the war in Spain; both nations have been invaded by fascism.

"It is my intention to learn from the experiences of the Spanish people in their war against fascism and to apply these experiences to our own struggle against Japanese fascism. And because Spain and China have the same enemies, There is a definite connection between the war in both of these countries. I am here in order to further cooperation between them, so that we may hasten the day of our ultimate victory. For the victory of China is a guarantee of peace in the Far East. The victory of Spain is a guarantee of peace in Europe. And one of the guarantees of a Chinese victory is the victory of Spain and likewise one of the guarantees for a Spanish victory is the victory of China."

Asked in what way the United States was concerned in the Sino-Japanese War, and as to whether there is a possibility that the United States will be eventually involved in the fray, General Yang said, "Today fascist East and fascist West have madly invaded Spain and China. Here we are already faced with a very serious threat to world peace by these invasions.

"But it is an even more dangerous threat to world peace if the democratic nations isolate themselves from these conflicts and permit the aggressor nations to continue their invasions unmolested. For instance, for the Uni-

ted States aloofness from the Sino-Japanese conflict will result not only in a threat to her leadership in the Pacific, but also in the loss of her interests and investments in China and in the Pacific. In the end the United States will find it impossible to stay out of a greater war which will occur as a result of Japan's present policy of expansion."

"Therefore, in order for the peace-loving American people to prevent this threat of becoming involved in a world war, they must not isolate themselves from the events which are happening in China. The majority of the American people have energetically expressed their opposition to fascism. Recently, President Roosevelt pointed out that it was impossible to localize any conflict, no matter in which part of the world it began, and he stated, correctly, that the United States cannot stand aloof from any of these conflicts. From this speech we can see that America is trying to take a further step and an active attitude in connection with the Sino-Japanese War. It is not definitely necessary for America to aid China by the use of military force. The way for America to help China is to exert pressure on Japan through an economic boycott of Japanese goods. This will deal a severe blow to Japan's hopes of continuing her invasion in China."

"All Six Footers, Tough Mountaineers"

A significant highlight on our rearguard activities against the fascist invaders is revealed in a letter written by an American now active on the Extremaduran front.

"The other day", he writes, "I spoke with — members of a band of guerrilleros who had just come out of the mountains on a short mission. They carry on constant partisan warfare behind the enemy's lines. With the band was a very business-like and attractive young partisan girl. She carried a big gat on her hip.

"The entire band was the finest-looking group I've seen in all of Spain. All six-footers, tough mountaineers."



USE OF THE thousands of Chinese soldiers, armed with hand-grenades, fighting like the Spanish People's Army soldiers, against foreign aggression and fascist invasion.

EDEN PREPARES A FURTHER BETRAYAL

On the night of November 12, fascist broadcasting stations all over the world were jubilant. The stations at Berlin and Rome broadcast for more than an hour in English. The stations at Toledo, Seville, Salamanca, Gijon hoarse with joy.

And what was the cause of this triumphant chorus? Have the fascists taken Madrid? Have they, with the help of German and Italian troops and arms won some resounding victory on one of the fronts? No, they have not taken Madrid, and the small gains they made in the Aragon a few days ago, were lost to them a couple of days afterwards when the Government forces counter-attacked.

Are Germany and Italy sending more men and more guns to the fascists in Spain? They are, but this is not the cause of fascist jubilation. German and Italian conscripts have met defeat before now, at the hands of the Government forces, and will again.

EDEN IS CAUSE

Mr. Eden and his Foreign Office have provided a reason for the fascist rejoicings.

It is more than a year now since the German and Italian governments, anticipating the fall of Madrid, hastened to recognise the Burgos "government". It was the dearest wish of the British Tory government to do likewise, but the fear of a similar demonstration to that which greeted the Hoare-Laval Pact, when they had decided to betray Abyssinia, caused the reactionaries to hold their hand for the time being; but the tortuous, twisted course of British foreign politics for the past year has been directed to one end -- the achieving by subterfuge that which could not be done openly.

FIRST BRITISH AGENT

There has arrived in Salamanca a representative from Britain to the rebel "government". This is to be the first of a number of British "agents" who will be stationed in the most important towns in rebel territory "to watch over British interests". The British Government will not call these "agents" consuls, which in effect and intention, they are, as this would involve open recognition which the British people would be in no temper to tolerate.

What does British Imperialism hope to gain by this move? To Britons enrolled in the Spanish People's Army the expectations of the Tories will be plain. From the beginning the British Government has hoped for, and worked for, in its own way, a Franco victory. The large scale intervention on the part of fascist Italy and Germany has placed the Government in a dilemma, for the entrenchment of these two countries in Spain would threaten its communications both with Africa and India, its two main sources of Imperial tribute. By its new move, and those which will follow it, it hopes, while endeavouring to secure a victory for Franco, to separate him from his allies, particularly Italy, which it regards as the principal menace to its Imperial trade routes.

BRITAIN'S PLANS TODAY

What chances has this plan of meeting with success?

It is certain that Portugal, while it has lent itself to the designs of fascist Italy, views with no great pleasure the installation of



MR. EDEN

The political schemer and manipulator for the interests of British Tories. Having deceived France and juggled the Spanish war question with Hitler and Mussolini, he is now plotting for a Franco victory with the view of gaining concessions of mines and other Spanish economic resources.

a raging and ever more greedy tiger on its doorstep, and would welcome the intervention of its old "ally" Great Britain.

Hitler whose entire policy has been directed towards the preparation for a great war of con-

GRAN EN

British Hospital, Aragon front, September 1936.

*Too many people are in love with death
And he walks thigh-proud, never sleeps alone;
Consider him neighbour and enemy, both
Hated and usual, best avoided when
Best known.*

*Weep, weep, weep! say machine-gun bullets, stating
Mosquito-like a different note close-by;
Hold steady the lamp, the black, the torn flesh fighting
And the searching knife; carry the stretcher; wait,
Eyes dry.*

*Our enemies can praise death and adore death;
For us endurance, the sun; and now in this night
The electric torch, feeble, waning, but close-set,
Follows the surgeon's fingers. We are allied with
This light.*

T. H. WINTRINGHAM

quest, has repeatedly stated that in such a war Germany could not hope to be successful, without the aid, or at least the benevolent neutrality, of the British Empire. There is, therefore, good reason to believe that if he thought there was a chance of making a deal with Britain, he would not hesitate to jettison his Italian confederates.

It goes without saying that Franco would lend himself to the design of giving himself some semblance of mastery in the territory it is hoped may be won for him.

So far, so good.

MUSSOLINI'S HOPES

But what of Italy? Will Mussolini be willing to meekly surrender all the on which he has staked so much? The Balearics, the positions commanding Gibraltar, the naval and submarine bases on the Spanish coasts? Will he surrender without fight the minerals he has, and those he hopes to get? Mr. Eden is crazy if he thinks he will.

Furthermore, there are at least two other factors which Eden has left out of account -- the British people and the Spanish people. As the line of the British Government becomes constantly more openly pro fascist, so the antago-

nism to it grows in the Labour Party and in the masses of people not yet allied to any political party. And the British Government is presuming when it assumes that Franco is going to win this war. We who are here in Spain have every reason to doubt that he can, even with the aid of Italian conscripts and German arms. And even the moral support of the British Government will not avail him much against the growing power of the Spanish People's Army.

The British Government will not achieve its objects in Spain, but its policy is fraught with danger for the peace of the world. The British Tory Government, like that of Hitler and Mussolini, is a Government of war, and must be quickly removed if world peace is to be preserved.

D. C. G.

Spanish Government Invites Lloyd George

The Spanish Republican Government has invited the former British Prime Minister, Lloyd George, to visit loyal territory in Spain. It is expected that he will accept the offer.

COPIC, COMMANDER OF OUR 15th BRIGADE



Commander COPIC

Although the men in the battalions which comprise the 15th Brigade look upon Brigade Commander Copic as an Anglo-American by adoption, little is known among us of his exciting and varied life. His long connection with our brigade—from Jarama, through the Brunete and recent Aragon offensives—has naturally made this stocky leader a familiar figure among us. We have seen him in many aspects; and it is always a surprise to newcomers in the battalions to see his square-jawed, serious face, set in severe lines of concentration, break suddenly into the most friendly and jovial of smiles. And many of us know him in another mood: we have heard him sing, at headquarters and in the trenches alike. He himself is quite frank about this. "I love to sing", he says; and he adds: "I sing even at the front". He invariably leaves to his associates the job of reminding him that during brigade actions he is too intent upon the task of coordinating the effective fire of every unit against the enemy to think of any other sound but that of artillery, machine-gun and rifle fire.

Well, that's a long introduction, but it doesn't even begin to reveal our commander in all of his many qualities. Most of us will, if we

have not already done so, find these out for ourselves. Meanwhile, perhaps a bare recital of the facts of his life will help.

Vladimir Copic was born in 1891 into family of a small tradesman, in the town of Senj in Croatia (previously in Austria, now in Yugoslavia). The family was poor. His father, the owner of a small tailor shop, couldn't feed his family of thirteen children out of his meagre earnings. All of these children, therefore, had to start working at very early ages, and all of them worked hard.

Thanks to a scholarship, which he received while he was still in grade school, Vladimir Copic was enabled to attend high school and eventually to register for a college course of study. He was the only one of all his brothers and sisters who was able to do this.

EARLY ACTIVITIES

"As a student", he says, "my record was varied: sometimes my grades were excellent, sometimes very poor".

As a student, too, he took an active part in the revolutionary student movement, which had as its principal task the fight for national independence of the Croatian people oppressed by the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In connection with his participation in the student movement he was arrested in Zagreb for the first time in 1912.

The outbreak of the World War found him in the ranks, a soldier in the Austrian Army. It was only a year later, in 1915, that he was taken prisoner in Russia. While a prisoner in Russia he became familiar with Marxian literature. And from 1917 on he worked for the Revolution, which he recognized through his newly-found

knowledge to be the gateway to freedom for the Russian people, among the war prisoners.

AFTER 1917

And now we will let Commander Copic tell a part of his story himself:

"Towards the end of 1918 I went to Yugoslavia, where I took an active part in the labor movement... Because of my participation in the labor movement, I was frequently subjected to persecution. In 1919 I was on trial for organizing a campaign of solidarity with the Hungarian Commune. In November, 1920, I was elected to the Parliament, but six months later I was expelled and placed on trial. Two years in jail was the sentence.

"Later, in 1925, as the secretary of the Independent Labor Party in Croatia, and as the editor of the labor paper, *The Struggle*, I was again sentenced — this time to three and a half years in prison. This time, however, I was able to escape from prison. But since then I have had to live in emigration from my native land."

ARRIVAL IN SPAIN

Vladimir Copic came to Spain in January, 1937, to join the Peoples Army. Towards the beginning of February he reached the Jarama front, as Political Commissar of the Fifteenth Brigade; and after a couple of days of very heavy fighting around the Jarama, he took over the command of the Brigade.

During the July offensive of the Peoples Army around Brunete, he was wounded by shrapnel from an airplane bomb.

This is far from a satisfactory biography of Commander Copic. It is merely the skeleton of a biography, the outline of an active and productive career, the stuff of which biographies can be written. But these few notes, with very little detail to round them off and fill them in, are ample indication of the kind of life our Commander has lived.

He has never ceased to learn, to satisfy that consuming hunger for knowledge which is most often found among people who have known bitter poverty, people who have had to fight and toil and sweat for their education. He learned English while he was a prisoner in Russia. "At the same

time", he explains, "since I learned it myself, from a book, I do not understand it as well as I might when it is spoken, particularly when it is spoken rapidly". Because of his work in Spain with English and American and Canadian comrades, he feels that his knowledge of the English language has increased considerably.

In addition to his native tongue, Croatian, he speaks Russian, Ger-



man and Czech well. He can read all Slavic languages. In addition to English, but, he adds, "not so well", he speaks Spanish, French and Italian.

Back home we would call this, I suppose, a thumbnail sketch. Whatever it is called, it is the essential record of a man who has been with our Brigade longer than any of us, who has led and directed it through one great defensive period and two great offensives, and who is now preparing us for whatever lies in store. The Americans in the Brigade call him "an American by adoption". If any of the other nationalities in our brigade make similar claims on him, it will be an inter-brigade battle for his adherence. But through it all, you may be sure, despite his pleasure at the various adoptions, he'll be working away at those things which, in or out of battle, are the things which bring victory to the Brigade, to the Peoples Army, and to the government of the Spanish people.



An interview between the two "unknown" aggressors.

Japanese Ambassador Gets Hot Reception

When the Japanese Ambassador arrived in a New York port on the ocean liner "Europe of Okura" last week, he was greeted by a huge storm of anti-Japanese demonstrators.

FROM MADRID TO AMERICA

A Radio Address on Spain and its People

I am happy to greet the people of America, particularly the Negro people, tonight from this center of heroic struggle against fascism. It might seem odd that I should thus characterize this fight, but one's first and last impression here is just that. It is not only a civil war -- not only a war against Franco -- but a fight to keep fascism from engulfing a people for whom democracy is dearer than life itself.

I came to Spain to try to understand the significance of this war to the minority peoples of the world who have suffered so severely already from fascist brutality and propaganda. I cannot tell you much, for I have been in Spain but a week and there are others here tonight who will speak more authoritatively. But a new comer's reactions may have some value.

Reactions tremble over one another -- they come so thick and fast. In these minutes I can only tell you a few. I feel at home here though one is in the midst of the strain of a war ridden country. Though my Spanish is miserably inadequate, I am able to talk to the people. We have a common language. They are fighting oppression and I come from a people whose op-



TWENTY YEARS AGO Russian women were perplexed by the intricacies of machinery; today they are the masters of them.

FRIENDS OF THE
MACKENZIE-PAPINEAU
BATTALION IN SPAIN

MISS B. COLLE, EXECUTIVE NATIONAL OFFICE PHONE RA 1-2333

October 26, 1937.

TO ALL CANADIAN COMRADES
IN SPAIN

Salud, Comrades!

Greetings from your "rearguard" organization and an expression of the great pride we feel in the record you have made in Spain upholding the traditions of Democracy against the ruthless Fascist attempt to bind the world into chains of slavery.

Comrades, we have a request to make of you in the Front -- one that will greatly assist us in the work here. It is a matter of establishing communication between comrades over there and ourselves.

You can hardly vision the demand which comes to us for first hand information from you. The people of Canada from coast to coast want to know daily what you are doing. May we suggest to you the following:

1. That you keep in constant touch with relatives and friends. Echoes of rumors which you know so well in Spain are heard here and oft-times are the cause of much unnecessary worry.
2. That you write to this office as often as you can find time and material, telling experiences and mentioning other Canadians who may be in hospital with you. Also we would like pictures (especially of Canadians), bulletins, articles of publication, etc. which can be used in publicity.
3. Write the newspapers in the locality you come from. They are interested and glad to get material. Experience has proven that invariably donations are sent in following such publication. Don't forget to write your union local and other organizations to which you belonged.

Comrades, if you can do this it will assist us tremendously. And may we assure you that we will do our best to see that you do not lack of the comforts which it is possible to send over. Organization is being enlarged and a Dominion-wide tour is beginning soon. If we can do but half as good a job as you are doing over there it will be a tremendous success.

Canada is proud of you. Carry on! We are with you.

Salud, Camaradas.

BEATRICK COLLE
Secretary.

The above letter was sent to I. B. with the request that it be transmitted to all Canadian comrades in Spain.

pression is centuries old. I am a part of their feeling against the Italian fascism which has participated in the devastation of their country, because we in America felt keenly the devastation by the same forces of Ethiopia. I sense their determination to maintain democracy in Spain, because in America we Negroes have been striving for democratic rights since the days of slavery.

Though the Moors are today a part of Franco's fighting forces, I find no racial propaganda in Spain. Our Negro boys who are fighting in the Inter-

national Brigades are loved by the Spanish people. One encounters none of the racial prejudice so characteristic of one's own country. A victory for fascism in Spain would change all this. The conclusion can only be therefore, that all of us who as minority peoples are victimized by fascism, all of us who believe in the principles of democracy have the duty of supporting this fight of the Spanish people with all that we have. It is our common struggle.

LOUISE THOMPSON

World Anti-Fascist Women Delegation Visit Spain

"One of the most inspiring experiences in our visit to Spain has been our reception by the International Brigades", a spokesman for the delegation representing the Women's World Committee Against War and Fascism said in Madrid.

The delegation, consisting of Bernadette Cattaneo, secretary of the World Committee, Marcelle Leroy, secretary of the Belgian committee, Maria Rebate, secretary of the French committee, Hilda Vernon, British secretary and Miriam Arcei of the Italian Committee, visited various Battalions of the I. B. after attending women's anti-fascist Congresses in Valencia and Barcelona.

INTENSIFY WORK

"We promise to intensify our work to assure the opening of the frontiers and respect for International Law, and win ever greater support for Republican Spain", Miss Cattaneo said.

"Nothing but the devotion of the I. B. men could be more inspiring than the Womens' Congress in Barcelona", explained Miss Vernon, member of the group. "There a real united front of all the important women's organizations in Catalonia, was formed behind the policy of the government". She intends to return to England to tell women there also of the important role I. B. men played in the Aragon during recent campaigns.

10,000,000 MEMBERS

"For Peace and Freedom", is one of the main slogans of the World Committee which the delegation represents, an organization with 10,000,000 women as members and 20 popular illustrated periodicals being issued in its name. "For defense of Mother and child" is another.

"The fight for democracy in Spain is certainly a fight for peace and freedom" Miss Vernon, British representative said. "And after seeing the manner in which the fascist wage ruthless war against the peaceful civilian population, can anyone doubt that the fight of Spain is one for the defense of Mother and child throughout civilization!"

SPANISH STUDENTS IN THE WAR FOR CULTURE

(Continued from page 1.)

was fifteen years old when he joined the first fighters on the front. He was called back by his father. He had claimed to be seventeen years of age when the first F.U.E. call was issued. After his recall, he was assigned to the shoemaking service, where it was thought he would be safe; but he found, with his extreme youth and enthusiasm, that this branch of the service was intolerable to him. Finally it was agreed that he go into the infantry: here he remained until his father again decided to call him back for not being of age to do front line duty.

SANDBAGS FOR PILLOWS

After two weeks, this young student ran away from his father's home and joined a shock brigade. He went with the Campestinos, where he remained until his father again located him. Once again in Madrid, he sought to return to front line duty. To wind up this story without describing a dozen addition recalls and escapes to the front in which he participated, let it be known that today this young student-fighter can be found in an artillery information service of the Army of the Center. There is much doubt



CARRASCO

A student of the Sciences. When the war began, he immediately organized a Battalion called the "Joven Guardia" (Youth Guards) which fought on the Extremaduran and Sierra fronts. Just before his death he was made Commander in Chief of Operations of the First Army Corp.



UNIVERSITY, peasant, industrial, and white-collar youth — all behind the same miles of sand-bag parapets raised in defiance of the fascists.

about his being recalled again now, a year and a half after the war first began. His father has given him up as "impossible". Cases like this could be multiplied by the dozens.

Another curious incident occurred in the shoemaking branch on the very first day it went out. The section's destination was Pozuelo, where the men were quartered in small tents where there was very slight comfort. These tents were pitched in an open field, behind a fair to middling sandbag construction. Things went well until it occurred to one of the students to use a sandbag as a pillow; for this purpose, he appropriated one of the sand-bags on the parapets. Immediately we all made haste (I had the honor of fighting in this section) to imitate them. You can figure out for yourself the surprise and desperation of the technicians when they checked up on fortifications early the next morning and discovered the students all peacefully asleep on their sand-bag pillows and the sector completely in the open, unprotected. The fas-

cists must have been sleeping too or there would have been no students to ball out. As it was, the remarks of the technicians to the students were far from flattering. We worked all day to repair the damage and correct our slight lax. That night however, instead of sleeping on sand-bags in a tent, we discovered a house which gave us better protection without exposing us to enemy fire or the foolish temptation to which we had succumbed the previous night.

YOUTH FRONT

All of these sections later formed the Battalion of the Youth Front. Together with most of the other youth organizations these battalions today form the 68th Mixed Brigade. If one asks how the students in this battalion conducted themselves in battle it is enough to say that a company composed of members of F. U. E. when placed in defense positions at Usera prompted the commander to state that their presence was a guarantee that their positions would be well defended.

Among these student companies a petition was composed and addressed to the National Minister of Defence requesting that the comrades in command be given the rank of Lieutenant without having to go through the Popular War School. It is testimony to their abilities that this request was immediately granted. Further proof of the students' excellent military conduct is the statement completely borne out by all observers, that seventy-five percent of the students who volunteered as militiamen during the first days of the war have made outstanding names for themselves in the Popular Army, holding down numerous ranking positions from that of Lieutenant upward.

LEADING POSITIONS

There are Political Commissars, heads of brigades and divisions, aviators, doctors, etc. Other students, unable to bear arms because of extreme youth or physical infirmity or disability, have directed activities of a cultural nature among the peasants, in the factories, and in the barracks. There is a student in the Popular University in Madrid who is General-Secretary of the F. U. E. Three thousand workers attend this uni-



JOSE GARCIA

Student of Philosophy and one of the founders of the F. U. E. of Madrid. He was President of the U. F. E. H. and a Political Commissar in the famous Fifth Regiment before he was killed in battle last year.



WHEN THE STUDENTS of Madrid temporarily dropped their books and pens to rush to the mountains and to the gates of the city flinging their unarmed bodies against the surging Moors and Italian fascists, many of their most notable leaders fell. To the left is the photo of Nazario Cuartero, former leader of the Right wing student movement of the "Old Guard" during Primo Rivero's dictatorship. He was expelled from the reactionary student organization because of his vigorous anti-fascism. After fighting on many fronts, he fell on the Escorial front the first day of November, last year. To the right is shown the picture of Juan Marco, one of the principal organizers of the F. U. E. in Castellón. He was a militant member of the Union of Communist Youth and took active part in the pre-war clandestine revolutionary movement; he performed leading services in the October Rebellion of 1934. He was commanding Lieutenant of a Battalion of Militiamen before he fell on the Teruel front last year. The Battalion in the 13th International Brigade which bears his name has a brilliant record of battles at Teruel and the Southern fronts.

versity at a time, receiving instruction which is invaluable in our fight against fascism. Just as in dealing with students in military positions, I do not think it necessary to mention names, because all of those who have placed all of their knowledge and enthusiasm to the job of combating fascism have done a job of enlightenment which will live beyond their single individual efforts.

During the year and a half in which we have fought, many students have fallen, all pursuing their duties as Spaniards. Many have had responsibilities which they have held with honor until death. Among the fallen are the names of many of the leading members of our organization. Among these we can cite the names of Carrasco Cuartero, Lopez, Loma, Pedro Escudero, Laplana. Not only have we suffered the final casualties of warfare; many of us have been made cripples in extreme youth, defending that which was theirs, living examples of courage and self abnegation for those who still continued to answer the call to bear arms in the defense of our country.

COMRADE TARANCON

We can mention the name of comrade Tarancon, 17 years of

age. He was among the first to go out to fight fascism at the beginning of the rebellion in the Sierras. It was there that he fell, pierced by fourteen bullets fighting against the mercenary troops that came from Burgos, Valladolid and Segovia. Today, comrade Tarancon's right arm is useless. Despite this he insisted many times on returning to the front. After continuous refusals, he insisted on being given a teaching post just behind the trenches. At present this comrade is President of the Union Profesional de Estudiantes de Bachillerato.

The girl students have known how to help their comrades. Among the girls so many have been outstanding as to make it impossible to mention their names in a short article. They have worked in factories, directing themselves the production of cloth and clothes for the fighters. Among them are many nurses at work just behind the lines. Others, like their fellow students, go into the factories and the fields, giving classes to the workers and the peasants.

The Spanish students have indeed shown that they can exchange the pen for the sword, their books for rifles.

JOSE-LUIS FERNANDEZ

Irish Fighters Back Home Call For Support of Loyal Spain

Thirteen Irish volunteers in the Spanish Peoples Army, repatriated after having been wounded in Spain, have issued a vigorous statement calling for the complete support of Republican Spain by the Irish Free State Government. The thirteen are William Scott, Terence Flanagan, James Prendergast, Joseph Monks, Patrick Smith, Sean Goff, Patrick Duff, Frank Edwards, William Bower, Peter O'Connor, James O'Beirne, Donal O'Reilly and Jack Nalty.

"We... wounded members of the Irish Unit serving... with the Spanish Republican Army feel that it is now necessary to raise our voices", the statement declares, "in a direct appeal to the Irish nation. In the name of our fifty comrades whose graves dot the Spanish battlefields, in the name of our comrades still in action, we speak in behalf of their cause."

CITE EXPERIENCES

The statement goes on to describe the extensive pro-fascist propaganda which flooded Ireland at the outbreak of the treasonable revolt against Republican Spain, and how, despite this barrage of lies, so many young Irishmen left their native land to fight with the people of Spain against the traitorous generals.

"Our experience in Spain", they continue, "has convinced us that we were right in taking the step we did. We saw for ourselves that the propaganda still being circulated here (in Ireland) was a grotesque misrepresentation. We say to the Irish people that there is

no 'Red mob' in Republican Spain; that all parties have united to defend the Republic, so that the Spanish people may freely determine their own destinies in the future...

ONLY ONE SIDE

"There can be only one side for the Irish people! And it is the side that has been shamefully traduced. As yesterday, so it is to-day. The lordlings and generals, with the wealth and might ones of the earth behind them, have made the world ring with new 'Scullabogues' and 'Wexford Bridges'; the men in frieze-coats and dungarees, the poor teachers and scholars, cannot be heard, though every fact attests the justice of their cause.

"We call on the Irish people, then, to rise up against the Preas lords and unscrupulous politicians who are misleading us now as they misled us before. We call on the Government of the Free State to end its subservience to this powerful and noisy group, and to grant the Spanish Republic the full re-



cognition it had before the conflict.

"We demand this in the name of our comrades who have died to redeem this nation's honour, in the name of our comrades who are ready yet to die, and in the name of the traditions handed down by our National Fathers."

Was The Chairman's Face Red?

You've probably heard this one (or read it) before, but we think it's good enough to hand down to posterity. It happened one night, at an investigation of the Communist Party in Massachusetts:

Among others called upon to give evidence before the Commission was Earl Browder, and during the evidence the following occurred:

A certain senator asked: "Mr. Browder, does the Communist Party have any secret organization within its ranks?"

"It has not."

"It has not?"

"No."

"Then", said Mr. Burke, "will you tell me just what the connection is between the Communist Party and the Boogawahzies?"

"The what...?"

"The Boogawahzies", said the senator.

"We've never heard of the Boogawahzies", said Mr. Browder.

"Why", said the senator, "everyone of your writings refers to them, but we haven't been able to locate the Boogawahzies."

"He means", put in the chairman, "the bourgeoisie!"

Greek - Americans Pledge Fight to a Finish

A correspondent calls attention to the role of the Greek comrades, and especially Greek-Americans, in a letter to THE VOLUNTEER, the full text of which follows:

"Dear comrade: I have never missed an issue of your paper and am well pleased with the layout and contents, but something has been missing, and it isn't too late to make amends.

HIGHEST MORALE

"Being a representative for the American anti-fascist Greek newspaper, Empros, it has been my pleasure and duty to go from front to front and to various hospitals to interview the Greek comrades; and I have found, wherever I have gone, the highest morale possible exists among my countrymen.



"There are more than 200 Greeks in Spain today. Many have fallen, many are wounded. And they who still live are at the front, defying the dirty fascists to try and get past them. To point out heroic deeds of a few would not be fair to the others, who are on the job to wipe out fascism.

END FASCIST HOPES

"Most of these comrades have wives, children and real friends who are watching the news anxiously, waiting for a chance to hear how the Greeks are progressing.

"The Greeks in Spain all send their friends and comrades at home their anti-fascist greetings. We are going to stay here until Franco, Mussolini and Hitler are defeated and their dream of Spanish conquest buried forever."

P. M.

LINEs BEFORE WINTER

All summer the soldiers have been fighting stripped to the waist. They are burned bronze by the sun. The other day a Division doctor appeared and recommended that from now on the officers must forbid this exposure. The autumn winds bring on bad colds. All of the warm clothing from last year has been disinfected, cleaned, and distributed.

The men must also be well nourished to keep fit through the winter. The Government has allotted an additional 55 centimes a day for each soldier. Used to the best advantage, these centimes will be multiplied a hundred times. Some of the land behind the lines is good for growing vegetables or other purposes. Goats, pigs, and cows, have been added to the livestock at the front for the use of the troops.

A commission from one brigade has gone to Barcelona to buy 4,000 pairs of boots and another to Elche for waterproofs. This has

been done without touching the soldiers' pay.

At an officers' post, Angel Serano, a soldier-sculptor of the



unit, has raised a monument five metres high on which he has engraved the brigade motto: "We go to war neither loving life nor fearing death."

All along the line in Guadarrama the soldiers are digging in for the winter. The chiefs and officers are carrying wood along with the men and taking part in the general preparations. It is already winter on the peaks of the Sierra.



MADRID "Chicos" painting the town red with colorful flags and banners in the recent double anniversary celebration of a year of fascist resistance in Spain and twenty years of workers power in the Soviet Union.

DIANA (U. G. T.) Larra, 6. Tel. 41105.—Madrid.

American Hospital Unit Leaves the Southern Front

After six months on the Cordoba front, the American Hospital Unit under Dr. A. I. Friedman (of Hackensack, N. J.) is now at Villa Paz for a short period of reorganization before leaving for the Fifteenth Brigade. The American Hospital of the South and its full complement of nurses, doctors and ambulance drivers has served with the 86th Mixed Brigade since April 23, when it arrived at Pozoblanco with Dr. Edward Barsky.

This unit, consisting of an auto-chir (portable operating room) and its accompanying 20 bed field hospital, seven ambulances, and a 100-bed base hospital, served its "apprenticeship" with the 86th Mixed Brigade on the Los Blauquez sector. Following its short stay at the American medical base, it will be transferred to the 15th Brigade as an experienced and seasoned mobile military hospital.

The doctors, Commandante A. I. Friedman and Captain Norman Rintz, leave the Cordoba front with the highest of praise from Division Commander Morandi, bringing with them nurses and doctors to whom shell fire and aviation is no new tale.

Dr. Irving Busch, commander of the American Hospitals in Spain, is supervising the reorganization of the unit.

Triple Harvest Plan to Increase Production

The Ministry of Agriculture in order to increase production in the Eastern provinces (Castellón, Valencia, Alicante, Murcia, Almería) has worked out what is called the Triple Harvest Plan, that is, obtaining three different crops in the same agricultural year. The crops will be wheat, beans and potatoes. The wheat (Mentano, an early variety) is to be sown in October and harvested in April. The beans are to be sown right after the wheat harvest and gathered in July, when the potatoes are sown.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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Madrid, December 6 - 1937

"I JOINED THE ARMY" by "X. Y. Z."

This book is the second issued by the FACT publishing house and it has already met with a boycott from the powers that-be. The printers suddenly refused to print the book and on the second day of issue the publishing firm which was to distribute it, refused to further handle it despite three legal authorities having declared it to be perfectly within the law.

This incident proves once again that whilst there is no official censorship, the British ruling class have ways and means of stifling criticism which is directed against the present state of things.

Certainly X. Y. Z. says some very hard things about the British Army system — so hard that he has already started a big controversy.

His bona fides are unquestioned. His record shows that he is not one of those unfortunates who are incapable of fitting in with the Army system. He completed six years service with the Tank Corps, was never "crimed", passed three tests in different trades, passed a first and part of a "Special" in education and finished with an exemplary character as a corporal.

Much of what he says may be disputed by contrast with personal experiences in other sections and places in the British Army, but his experiences, exceedingly well written, reaffirm clearly the class character of the British Army.

He exposes the basis of the so-called volunteer system of recruiting in his first sentence when he says "I enlisted — after being unemployed three months. There was nothing else for me to do — where I lived half the adult population were out of work".

His story of the reception into the barracks, squares with the experiences of most others. After thirty hours travel without food and sleep he is met by a bullying corporal who gives him a "fatigue" for enquiring about the possibilities of a couple of hours sleep. "You're in the bloody Army now". The first corporal he meets, lives up to the worst traditions of ignorance and spite for which the N. C. O.'s have become notorious. His slightest orders are bellowed in tones of hatred. The new recruits are persecuted until most of them are terrified. A feud develops between the corporal and a recruit which lasts over years.

Hopes of promotion which had begun to fade, brighten when they draw their kits and are attached

to a squad out of the corporal's way.

But new terrors lie in store for them; the vicious corporal is not the only one of his kidney. Their Army service begins with intensity. Out of bed at six, a free fight to get washed and shaved with insufficient bowls, buttons cleaned, beds made, hut duty before breakfast. After breakfast a lecture, foot drill, P. T.'s, an hour's education followed by more drill until dinner time. After dinner more drilling and more lectures. After tea, polishing equipment and greasy boots until they shine like patent leather. This period becomes a nightmare of exhaustion for the recruits.

Where X. Y. Z. fails however, is in not showing clearly that all

this soul-destroying regimentation has a purpose: that of smashing down any individuality that the recruits might possess and to mould them into unthinking units in an oppressive war machine.

The Army pay is notoriously low. What little the soldiers get is rapidly swallowed in the army canteen to augment the insufficiency of the army rations.

The slightest faults on parade or misdemeanors are punished with a severity far beyond the extent of the crime. A slight movement during an inspection directs the unwelcome attention of the officer towards you. "He prods you with his cane... 'Hair', says the officer. 'Dirty mess tin. Packs not right. Puttees not right. Take his name, sergeant!' When the sergeant comes to take your name you try to tell him that you had a haircut two days ago. 'Stop talking in the ranks', he roars. Another offence. Five major offences! What did you do? You moved.

According to the author, desertion is attempted on a far wider scale than is generally admitted. Attempts at desertion are not listed in official figures. Recruits mostly desert from petty restrictions on liberty, bullying, poor food and lack of money: the trained soldiers because of poverty at home and offers of employment and the desire to settle down in a normal married life. In X. Y. Z.'s opinion every British recruit "contemplates desertion, admires deserters, and envies the few who get away".

The author gives an interesting example of the stupid lengths to which bureaucracy carries the British Staff Officer. Sixteen medium



BRITISH ANTI-TANK unit at rest in Ambite. These men, anti-fascist volunteers from many parts of Britain, are acquainted with the scandalous conditions that exists in their Government's army as revealed in the "X. Y. Z." 's book. They are in a different and better army, a People's Army, which is fighting against Hitler and Mussolini's fascist aggressors.

(Continued on page 8.)

Strengthening of People's Front Emphasised At Valencia Plenum of C. C. of the Communist Party

A Plenum of the Central Committee of the Spanish Communist Party is an event which is bound to awaken the liveliest interest of every conscious Anti-Fascist in Spain. The Plenum which began in Valencia on November 13th made important decisions which cover the whole field of the Spanish people's struggle to win the war and the revolution.

LESSONS OF THE NORTH

The Plenum declared that the present situation is serious. The loss of the North confronts us with a grave military situation. At the same time José Díaz spoke strongly against the opinion of those who regard the loss of the North as having been inevitable because of its isolation. He drew a sharp contrast between the policy which saved Madrid and the policy which lost the North, between the policy of a great political mobilisation of the masses and the policy of forbidding meetings and propaganda and political work in the Army.

THREE GOVERNMENTS

As against the loss of the North the Plenum could point to positive progress. It traced the advance shown in the three Governments which have been in power since the beginning of the war: the Giral Government, weak, with no link with the masses; the Caballero Government which had the support of all the mass organisa-

tions in the country but failed to take advantage of its opportunities, showed a tremendous delay in solving vital problems, and a complete failure to deal energetically with the Trotskyist traitors and the Fifth Column. The present Government, which received an inheritance heavily mortgaged by the two previous Go-

vernments, has important achievements to its credit. The Communist Party greets the energy and authority displayed by the Government, pointing out at the same time that they must always be directed against the real enemies of the people.



New recruits brought into the Spanish People's Army just after the new Negrin Government took office.

verments, has important achievements to its credit. The Communist Party greets the energy and authority displayed by the Government, pointing out at the same time that they must always be directed against the real enemies of the people.

REGULAR PEOPLE'S ARMY

The Plenum noted the great progress which has been made in the military field: the formation of the Regular Army, the unified command, leaders who have proved their loyalty to the people. The Plenum emphasised that the Army's patriotism and its hatred of Fascism are one, and declared itself absolutely opposed to any tendencies towards a non-political Army. The task of the Army is to win the war and the anti-Fascist people's revolution. The Plenum indicated certain weaknesses in the Army — in some places an absence of the organisation and discipline which should characterise a regular modern army, an insufficient mastery of military technique, and the fact that a thorough purge of all disloyal elements has

still not been carried out. The Communist Party calls for the building of a vast force of reserves; the fortifications needed to withstand the enemy's attacks and to convert those attacks into heavy defeats; intensive and thorough training in military technique for the soldiers and, above all, the officers; a thorough purge of the

Army to remove the last enemy agent. While indicating certain weaknesses in the work of the Political Commissariat the Plenum declared that the Commissars are the soul of our Army and their role is an indispensable one which cannot be diminished. In the organisation of the war industry some progress has been made but it is still far from adequate and is proceeding too slowly. The Plenum declared that there is no obstacle to carrying out the immediate nationalisation of the basic industry which is essential if the needs of the Army are to be met.

"On the day the invasion of Spanish territory began, on that same day began the war of international Fascism against France", said José Díaz. He showed that a rebel victory in Spain would bring, not peace, but a world war. Two forces have aided the Spanish Republic from the beginning: the Soviet Union and the most advanced section of the working class. Díaz stated that the aid which international solidarity

had so far given the Spanish people had not yet been adequate because of the fatal policy of some Social-Democratic leaders which had led to defeat in Austria and Germany and is now leading to world war. He called for direct action for the Republic with concrete objectives — above all the prevention of transport of supplies of any sort to rebel Spain.

NO COMPROMISE

The Plenum appealed to the people of Spain to be on guard against all talk of compromise. Compromise with Fascism in Spain would be a victory for Fascism all over Europe "To drive out the invaders to smash Franco, to destroy Fascism forever — that is the only compromise possible."

The Plenum held out the perspective of a possible great improvement in the Republic's position as a result of international unity.

Díaz summarised the contrast between the semi-colonial Spain of Franco and the democratic Spain of the Republic. The Plenum posed a new question on the order of the day: the question of elections. Several arguments were advanced for this. The Cortes does not correspond to the present state of political forces in the country. The Provincial and Local Councils were appointed by Government decree. Elections would be the occasion for a great political campaign to mobilise the people for the winning of the war and should occasion no internal struggle in the People's Front between the anti-Fascist Parties



JOSÉ DÍAZ



LA "PASIONARIA"

and organisation. On the contrary it would serve to strengthen unity. In the French and Russian Revolutions we have examples of the effectiveness of elections in a period of war and revolution. The elections would show the world that while in rebel territory the people are terrorised by the Fascists and the Civil Guards, in the Republic the masses participate in the election of the organs of Government. This contrast could not fail to have considerable repercussions in the international sphere and in the rebel zone.

FIRM UNITY POLICY

Diaz emphasised the importance of the Communist's Party relations with the Socialist Party. He presented the United Party as a Party which did not want to absorb or displace anyone. The Communist Party's desire for closer co-operation with the C. N. T. did not mean any cooling in its desire to achieve fusion with the Socialists. The changes in the outlook and policy of the C. N. T. and the Anarchists made it possible to put on the immediate agenda of the day the definite participation of the C. N. T. in the People's Front and the con-



clusion of a pact between the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. on the basis of a concrete programme.

The Plenum called for absolute respect for the liberties and aspirations of all the peoples of Spain, and, in particular, of the Catalans.

A warning was issued against impatience and nervous reactions which might endanger working-class unity and the development of the People's Front policy—no other policy was possible at the present time. While the Communist Party did not agree with every one of the decisions of the People's Front Government without exception, none of the Government's decisions had made it impossible for the Communists to work to strengthen the Army; to develop the war industry and reinforce anti-Fascist unity within the People's Front. The People's Front should become a magnificent instrument for active and effective mass co-operation with the Government. At the Plenum the Communist Party solemnly pledged itself to do all in its power to strengthen and broaden the People's Front.

A. M. E.

"I JOINED THE ARMY" by "X. Y. Z."

(Continued from page 1.)

tanks were to demonstrate their capabilities to a select body of officials from a higher command. They were assigned, weeks in advance, the task of crossing a mile of treacherous moorland. Press reporters were invited to boost the show. "The tank crews were not in favour of the scheme—there was too much treacherous bog—even on foot one sank to the ankles in the slime. But higher authority was undisturbed. Three days prior to the event it rained. The drivers were on the verge of mutiny".

However the show commenced, "but not all the Staff officers ravings could get a tank across that strip of land. No one but a Staff Officer would have expected to do so". One tank completely disappeared from sight beneath the moor. "Ten thousand pounds of public money had been sacrificed".

"X. Y. Z." writes feelingly of the attitude of civilians towards the soldiers. The soldier he says is looked down upon. Parents object to their daughters marrying a soldier. They are refused admittance to cafes, dance halls and other public places: he quotes an instance where the soldiers and sailors in one town, after a number of examples of this social ostracism, organised a party of which he was one, and wrecked the cafes and dance halls where they had been refused entry.

He makes a strong appeal to the British working class "to alter its attitude to the troops—to win their absolute trust and confidence".

"Intimidation and fear of the military machine prevent the soldier from taking any active part in politics and at the same time rob him of political freedom. However, the soldier despite his handicaps is loyal to his class." This fact is sharply brought home to him as a result of the pay cuts which came into effect in 1925. When the soldiers failed to get the cuts returned under the Labour Government in 1929 there was great disappointment and disgust with the Labour leaders. "The disappointment of the soldiers spread to their relatives whom they maintained: anti-labour propaganda was spread mainly by the higher ranked N. C. O.'s and officers who sometimes lent an ear to the private's complaints about low pay. Controversies, held far

from the ears of authority, either bitterly condemned, or violently supported, Labour Rule".

These general experiences of "X. Y. Z." bear out the experiences of the majority of people who have served in the British Army. The whole attitude of the Army authorities to the men is seen in striking contrast when compared with our own experiences in the International Brigades and the Republican Army. Real volunteers for military service can be secured, without economic compulsion when people can be assured that their efforts will be used to champion democracy and the interests of the people.

The volunteers of the International Brigades sacrificed jobs and home cheerfully and they were received by the Spanish People and the Republican Army authorities as comrades in the anti-fascist fight. Discipline is not enforced to bludgeon the mind of the individual but in a comradely manner with the purpose of raising the efficiency of the Peoples Army. No effort is too great for the Government in ameliorating the inevitable hardships of war. "X. Y. Z." writes of an army in peace

have our political delegates and Commissars from the sections up throughout the whole Army to safeguard our interests, improve our social life and help develop our political connections.

Penalties for breaches of discipline are not brutal and decisions of the military courts are taken by the men. Promotion in our Army is open to all men of ability and good record without restriction and not confined as in other armies, to the people of the upper and middle classes.

It is because the Peoples Army has abolished the old bourgeois class restrictions that it increasingly wins new support from the people, becomes more and more a part of their life, held in the greatest respect and free from the old bureaucratic traditions, rapidly develops its striking force.

One is compelled to agree with the proposals of "X. Y. Z." for a public campaign in Britain for higher pay in the Services, more holidays, better pensions, better living accommodation, less severe punishments, shorter terms of service and plentiful and decent food. Where he makes the greatest



British volunteers at Fuencarral in November of last year.

time; whereas here one meets with general satisfaction with the conditions, the food and the standards of pay in the course of the war.

The political associations of the men are respected by those in authority. We have our Trench Wall-Papers, our bulletins, and our Brigade press through which to express our views. Above all we

error, is in leaving in the background the demand of the men in all branches of the Service for the rights of citizens—the right to discuss political events; the right to attend political meetings; the right to break down their isolation from the rest of the people and take a hand in their government.



Buenaventura Durruti

On November 20th, 1936, the Spanish Republic lost an irreconcilable and self-sacrificing enemy of Fascism—Buenaventura Durruti. Durruti was in the outskirts of Madrid in front of the building where he had his Staff Headquarters, when a fascist bullet wounded him mortally in the chest just as he was leaving a car to go up to the front lines.

A Barcelona worker, he was born on July 14th, 1896. His father was a railwayman. In 1920 Durruti joined the Anarchists. The bourgeoisie hated the very sound of his name and on four occasions he was condemned to death. He was one of the leaders of the Spanish Anarchist organization, the so-called Iberian Anarchist Federation (F. A. I.).

At the end of 1932 the F. A. I. succeeded in winning decisive influence in the trade union organization of the Spanish Anarcho-Syndicalists, the National Confederation of Labour (C. N. T.) in which the Syndicalists had previously held the majority. From that time on Durruti was one of the leaders of the C. N. T.

The military fascist rebellion found him in Catalonia. He showed the courage, determination and talents of an organizer and

a leader. The setting up of the United People's Government in Catalonia with the Anarchist's participation was in a large measure due to him. He spared no effort in forming battalions of armed workers. In the beginning these battalions took up an attitude of opposition to all power, an attitude of "organised indiscipline". The development of events, the difficulties of the struggle, the Fascist rebels' advance in Madrid, showed Durruti, and later the majority of the Spanish Anarchist workers, the necessity for organization and discipline.

Durruti took to heart the hard lessons of the anti-fascist struggle. "We must create a Regular Army. We shall establish an iron



discipline. The main task is to crush Fascism, to defend Spain." Those were the slogans under which he participated in the organization of the armed forces of the Republic.

In a radio appeal he made to the Catalan workers shortly before his death, he said: "We must set our united strength against fascist tyranny; there must be a *Single Organisation with a Single Discipline*."

A column of 12,000 well-disciplined men operated under his leadership. When the fascist bands were nearing Madrid, Durruti hastened there with a strong column of 5,000. He showed his willingness to place himself unreservedly under the orders of the united central command in the fight to defend Madrid.



Durruti's letter to the workers of the U. S. S. R. is full of the deepest love for the organized working-class and faith in its strength.

On Durruti's death José Díaz, in the name of the Central Committee of the Spanish Communist Party, sent a telegram to the C. N. T. leader, García Oliver:

"We have learned of the heroic death of our comrade Durruti with feelings of deepest sorrow. He was a son of the working-class and a brave defender of proletarian liberty. The criminal bullet of a fascist bandit has ended a young life, full of sacrifice. Let us draw closer together until we destroy the fascist hordes who have spattered our land with blood. Let us fight on all the fronts of Spain to avenge our hero's death. Long live the victory of the Spanish People!"

To the roll of honour of the brave Spanish fighters and the volunteers in the International Brigades who have fallen in the struggle against the fascist rebels and against fascist intervention there was added the name of Durruti.

The workers of all lands, all anti-fascists lower their banners in memory of that brave fighter for the freedom and independence of heroic Spain.

Military Leaders Take Part in I. B. Beimler Meeting

The anniversary of the death of Hans Beimler, German anti-fascist fighter who fell in battle on the Madrid front on December 1st of last year, was commemorated by the general Madrid press, by various political and military organizations, and by the different units of the International Brigades, last week.

At the International Brigades Commissariat headquarters in Madrid a special tribute was paid to the memory of Beimler at a meeting held in his honor, which a number of well known military leaders attended, among whom were: Anton, Commissar for War of the Army of the Center; Captain José Estrugo, representing General Miaja; Luigi Gallo, Commissar Inspector of the International Brigades; and Heinz Roth, Political Commissar of the "Hans Beimler" Battalion of the 11th Brigade. Each made a short speech in praise of Beimler. Rafael Henche, Mayor of Madrid, spoke in the name of the People's Front.

Representing the 15th Brigade was Dave Doran.

The Political Commissar of the



ANTON

14th Brigade, F. Vittori, acted as chairman of the meeting.

The first to speak was Comrade Roth. In his brief talk he said: "Today completes a year that the generous heart of Beimler has ceased to beat—he sacrificed

HANS BEIMLER, DEFENDER OF MADRID

Red Front! — said the hero,
And Hans Beimler fell to the earth.
The Spaniards heard it;
His German comrades heard it,
The French and the Italians.
Madrid heard it; the air heard it;
trampling, the bullet bore
to kill him, heard it.

Red Front! — and on loyal
Castilian soil fell
one who came from very far
to spill his blood here.

Red Front! — Hear him,
Germany of prisons,
the executioner who lifts
his dry-blooded ax that drops
on the necks of those
who refuse to stoop.

Red Front! — rings, whistles,
crossing like a bullet, crackling
through sea, sky and land,
through heavens — every place,
this cry moving rapidly.

Red Front! — until it is nailed,
deep into the hearts
of those who want it, who love it,
let them shout it — Red Front! —
like Hans Beimler shouted it.
Madrid, that has a memory,
will shout it until the mouths
of her rifles go dry
from so much shouting.

Red Front! — whistles the train
whizzing through the fields of Spain.
Roaring through the villages,
the towns, and the cities.
Among orchards and gardens,
flugs and orangery,
Valencia salutes the body —

Red Front! — of Hans Beimler.
The abundance of Catalonia,
her vineyards, her olive groves,
the sandy beaches of Barcelona.

Red Front! — to see him the people go.
Paris! Your workers,
singing, carry him on their shoulders,
marching him toward the boats
that they may take Hans Beimler,
since his German fatherland
refuses to give him a passage.

Red Front! — Through Moscow,
through the Red Square, great
pageantry, and multitudes —
singing they march to bury him.

Red Front! — Alongside of Lenin,
there, tranquil, he rests.

RAFAEL ALBERTI

himself for liberty. With him we honor all of our brothers who fell for the same cause. He washed with his blood the stain that Hitler has flung over the German people. He demonstrated that the "Führer" is not Germany, and that the best of Germany is found here in Spain fighting for freedom. The battalion that bears his name took his banner of the union against fascism. We pledge to carry it ahead of us till victory is

won. We shall carry it to Burgos and to Salamanca."

The popular Spanish poet, Rafael Alberti, recited three of his poems, the first entitled "To The International Brigades", the second called "Hans Beimler" (which is translated and printed above), and the third was the "Defense of Madrid". After a storm of applause, he recited another dedicated to the fallen youth of the war.



HANS BEIMLER

A year ago one of the best of the international fighters fell in the defence of Madrid.

Hans Beimler was born in a very poor German family. He went to work at an early age as an apprentice metal-worker in the Munich factories. He soon experienced the injustices of the social system in which he was living. He joined the Socialist Trade Union movement and was mobilised in the first days of the World War for anti-militarism. The war, in which he fought as a sailor, made him an ardent champion of peace and a bitter enemy of the German Monarchy. In November, 1918, he took part in the first act of the German revolution.

When the German Republic was crushed by Fascism and by its own weakness and wrong policy, Beimler, as one of the best-known fighters for peace and freedom in South Germany, was hunted, arrested and tortured together with so many of Germany's best. He experienced the hell on earth of the Dachau concentration camp, where they put him in the cell in which his friend Dressel had been murdered. Beimler was spared the same fate by his escape from Germany. He at once resumed political activity and became one of the sternest and most powerful accusers of Hitler Fascism.

When the rebellion of the Generals and Fascist traitors broke out in Spain, Hans Beimler came here to meet his enemies, the enemies of the German and Spanish peoples, in the armed struggle. He arrived in the first days; and at Barcelona, Albacete and Madrid he showed himself a tireless organiser of the "Thaelmann Centuria" and of the first International Brigades. Simultaneously with this military work, he carried on a magnificent struggle for unity.

He was appointed Political Commissar and came to Madrid in those difficult November days of 1936, when the Militia, whose heroism was sometimes of no avail because of their disorganisation and the demoralisation which resulted from their constant retreats, were standing at bay against the rebel Armies, and when the bourgeois journalists were preparing to write up the fall of the capital. The miracle occurred, the miracle which was the mobilisation of a brave people prepared to give life itself rather than live as the slaves of Fascism. At the head of the first International Brigade, which set an example in discipline, organisation and military efficiency, Beimler played his part. On December 1st, 1936 on the Madrid Front a Fascist bullet robbed us of this great leader.

AMERICAN HOSPITAL

There is a normal amount of activity going on at the American Base Hospital when a call comes to proceed immediately to the front. As you recall, the American hospital base is about fifty miles from Madrid, and this action is to take place on the Aragon front. We must be prepared to set up a field hospital of seventy-five beds with a complete staff of thirty personnel. This includes doctors, nurses, and varied types of help so that a complete hospital unit can be established in a building as close as possible to the front, ready to receive patients and ready to operate within twelve hours after the selection of a site.

As many of the personnel as can pile into a station wagon do so, and this vehicle becomes the vanguard. This is followed by an ambulance, then three trucks. One of the trucks contains all the kitchen supplies and the food. The other two carry beds, mattresses and other necessities. The autochir, which is the slowest moving, takes up the rear. The autochir, if you do not remember, is a com-



TWO International Brigaders folding gauze at the American Base Hospital.

pletely equipped operating room on wheels, in which any major operation can be performed. It is a complete autonomous unit. Where and whenever possible we prefer to have the contents of this unit transferred into a building about which can be built a complete seventy-five bed hospital. At the Madrid and Aragon fronts this has been the practice. On the Southern front, because of the unavailability of houses near the

front, surgical operations are done directly in the autochir.

HEAVY TRAFFIC

It is a two-day trip to the front and the nearer we get to our destination the thicker the traffic becomes. All are bound for the same place. There appears to be an endless train of troop convoys, food convoys, ambulances, trucks full of various materials — and we are caught in the line. The travelling slows down considerably. This is no dull line. The soldiers are constantly singing or shouting, excited in anticipation of the battle that is only a few days off. All languages are heard. These are the Internationals on the move.

As we near our destination, different sections of this convoy turn off the road to seek their camp sites, and we turn off to ours. This is a section of ploughed ground bordering upon a small stream, the latter the only pleasant sign in the set-up. The scarcity of water in this section during the late summer is notorious, and a scarcity of trees goes hand-in-hand with the lack of water. It is a bare arid country.

We come across three large barracks painted in bright blue, and on the roof a large red cross set in a white circle. A white enamel ambulance with a conspicuous red cross on its top stands all ablaze in the sun in front of the buildings. What a target for bombs from the air! I never saw

such a challenge to the fascists before. Since when do they spare hospitals? What does this defiance mean? Is it possible that we have blundered through the lines? Is there time to turn back?

GERMAN MAKE

We quickly return to the camp, ask about the hospital we have seen, and are told that it was set up by the International Red Cross. Actually we learned later that hospital was put into use during the offensive, but only after receiving a good camouflaging.

The next morning with a guide, and the final orders having been given, our group moves out. We are moving to another section of



DR. IRVING BUSCH, Commandant of all American hospitals in Spain.

the line, and reach our field hospital just before mid-day. Two Spanish surgical teams already have arrived, and the setting up of a field hospital is under way.

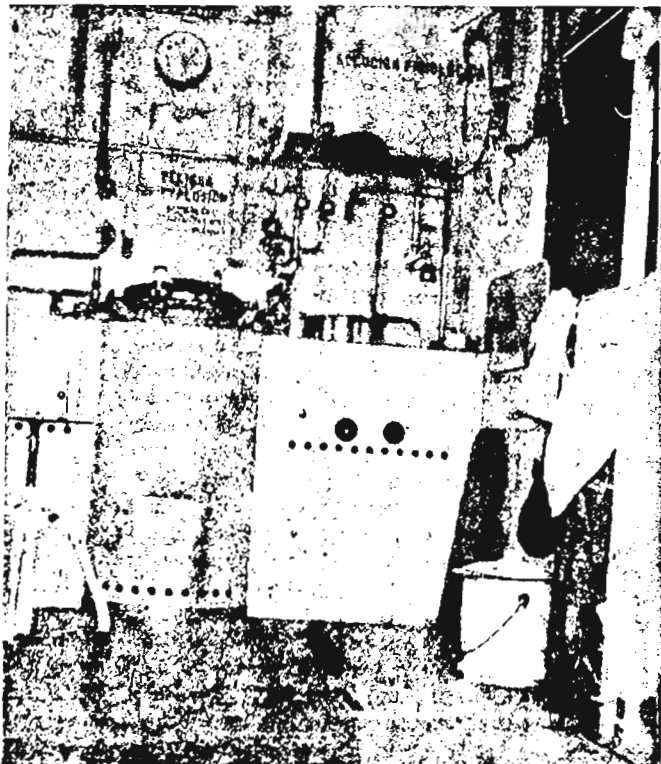
At lunch time six planes are seen overhead proceeding in the direction of the lines. "Whose planes are those?" I ask the Spanish surgeon who is standing beside me.

"Nuestros" (ours), he says beamingly.

"How do you know?" I ask.

And he replies, "Because they are headed in the direction of the front lines".

With the conclusion of his report the planes suddenly bank and head threateningly toward our hospital, and in a few moments we are all lying face downward on the ground. Then comes a crash



INSIDE VIEW of an Autochir.

AL UNIT IN ACTION

and an explosion... and everything and everybody is terrifically shaken up.

We keep our heads and eyes glued to the earth. A few moments and a similar explosion is heard. The anticipation of another falling bomb fills us with dreadful apprehension.

Then comes a third crash, but no explosion. Still we wait. When we feel the enemy have passed on, we investigate. Two bombs have exploded; another unexploded presents a fearful sight lying fifty meters from the hospital. With trepidation we approach the bomb and examine the German stamp on it. Well, that is the fascists' welcome to the Americans. But this is only an incident of field hospital life.

By late afternoon we are ready. All are assigned to duties.

It is evening and there is one of those big dark brown American ambulances coming slowly up the road. It appears a little unsteady on these Spanish country roads. Good that they are sturdy and are equipped with the latest American mechanical devices.

WOUNDED ARRIVE

In front of the hospital the ambulance stops, an American ambulance driver alights with his assistant, and they pass to the rear. The first wounded are removed to the front room, or triage, as it is called. Here they are examined, a diagnosis is made, and a treatment is decided upon. This one for the operating room. Another to be put to bed to await his turn for a later operation. Another to be sent for treatment to a hospital in the rear. All get a hypo of tetanus anti-toxin. The dreaded disease of lockjaw is a rarity in this war. In the hospital all is a-bustle now. The place seems full of doctors, nurses and helpers.

Some of these patients will require blood transfusions. Others are to receive shock treatment. Some cases will have plaster-of-Paris casts applied, others airplane splints, and then be sent on after a little rest to a hospital in



THE INTERIOR of one of the wards in the American Base Hospital.

the rear. The triage is a busy place.

The American operating team works at one table, and a Spanish team at a table along side. When the operation is completed we step into the triage. Lying on stretchers, covering every available space on the floor, are the wounded. Many ambulances have discharged wounded while we worked. It looks like an all night session, something that is not uncommon when doing front line work. The third operating team fills in, and this gives each group a chance to recuperate, for there will be a full week of concentrated activity.

NO REST AT FRONT

The number of cases in the triage has dwindled down to but a few, and we expect a temporary lull. But we peek in after finishing an operation and the triage is full again.

Dawn breaks and we still are hard at work. Wonder how the nurses are getting on in the wards? These are all very sick cases and require lots of care. But the nurses are working unhaltingly. There is no eight hour day at the front for them. The tenseness and tempo of front work somehow dispels fatigue.

During the early morning hours one hears the cannons pounding with discomfiting regularity. During the course of time one becomes unaware of the disturbing detonations and only notices the

head toward the lines flying six abreast and pass over a village situated one kilometer in front of us. As if pulling the same string, each drops a bomb on the town. We hear the terrific explosions, and see the ascent of black smoke into the skies—a direct hit. One-half hour later we are busy again, treating women and children that our ambulances bring in from the village we have just seen bombed.

When later I read President Roosevelt's speech delivered at Chicago on October 5th, I recalled most vividly this incident when I came to this passage, "and without warning or justification of any kind, civilians, including women and children, are being ruthlessly murdered with bombs from the air". For this town was not a military objective and had not, as a matter of fact, so much as a gasoline pump in it.

Our work continues feverishly for a week. We sleep in tents, and never bother to undress, for an ambulance load of wounded may come in at any hour. It is a really primitive camp life without conveniences.

Fascist bombers frequently

(Continued on page 9.)



AMERICAN and British nurses. This photo was taken at Quinto after the Fuentes de Ebro attack.

PRESENT DAY DICTATORS AND THOSE OF THE PAST

by HEINRICH MANN

The fascist Governments do not recognise the suppositious "red" Governments. They only tolerate the democratic Governments with great difficulty. Furthermore, they consider themselves to be the only competent authorities to decide the true colour of another Government; they claim the right to be the supreme judges as to the manner in which the nations must have themselves governed, and they arrogate to themselves the right to correct these nations when they see fit.

This phenomenon is very curious. It is the first time that a Government which is a new-comer and is thereupon legitimate, has permitted itself to lay down the law on the right to existence of other Governments older than itself. Until now the exact contrary was the case. The new Governments which came into being through revolution, a coup d'état or shady machinations were never recognised in a hurry by Europe at a time when Europe maintained a certain coherence in her ideas and institutions. They had to produce proofs of order and international morality; after which the recently created emperor or the dictator who showed a judicious readiness to fall in with the conventions, finally had the probability of being consecrated by his betters as a lawful sovereign.

Then this man, who was powerful on his own account but with whose shady arrival the other powers would not temporise for a lengthy period, overflowed with pride and joy. This is to be seen in that old and moving photograph which shows Napoleon III and Queen Victoria in the imperial train travelling among padded silk. They haven't much to say to one another, but what an expression of contentment there is on the face of the former usurper! He has been legitimised, and after being forced to wait he is none the less received into the bosom of the universal monarchy.

After examining this idyll, we immediately remember that, after all, the dictator was no less venturesome than the dictators now. Certainly he maintained his authority by a sort of "Gestapo" and his warlike enterprises never came to an end. Nevertheless the difference between him and an individual of Hitler's type is clear

enough. In the first place Napoleon III was not in the habit of laying waste countries in which he had no business for the pleasure of imposing his dominion upon them, as is the case in Spain at present. On the contrary he was possessed with the mania of bringing to foreign peoples the liberty which he denied to his own. In his battles he even went so far as to expose his own person, a practice which is quite unknown to the new lords and masters who prefer to observe the deeds of their bombing squadrons from a very respectful distance.

It is as well to add that formerly, politics, even the imperial politics, did not necessarily invade the sphere of spiritual civilisation. The mind kept its sovereignty despite the omnipotence of the



system. If Victor Hugo went into exile it was in order to maintain his political independence, and not for literary reasons. His books were not burned; and, on the contrary, the current of opposition brought them greater success. Under a dictatorship the greatest innovators of the century were able to experiment with a literature and painting which were both beautiful and daring. Thus scientists and artists did not feel themselves under any necessity for getting at logger-heads with the Court.

These facts must be borne in mind if we are to appreciate the full extent of the decadence of the new crop of dictators. Under other circumstances political violence did

not prevent a country's spiritual life from developing freely, and even from enjoying a certain airy lightness which no longer seems to exist in this world. Over Hitler Germany the darkness is becoming more and more oppressive. This is an unavoidable condition under a dictatorship which could not survive the granting of freedom of opinion or sincere and creative thought. Quite the reverse. In order to last, the dictatorship finds itself obliged to carry darkness into other places. It is necessary for the universe to accept its idea of culture, which is the negation of culture, and to become contaminated also. There is no security for this system of government, even if it is victorious in the political sphere, until it has succeeded in providing the peoples who are still free with that slavery of the mind which it calls its "philosophy".

A map of Europe recently published in Berlin has as its title: "Europe and Bolshevism. The different forms of Bolshevik penetration." According to this map three-quarters of the continent are already "bolshvised". In order to arrive at this conclusion they do not let themselves be disturbed by the fact that only one state has taken the means of production completely into its hands, although on the map the country guilty of this is covered with the blackest of blacks. They then proceed to colour the countries which have signed military pacts with the Soviet Union, such as those where a People's Front Government is in power, with a dull black faintly striped with a lighter colour. The Scandinavian countries where the Socialists are in power are, for that reason, scarcely less dark than the U. S. S. R. itself.

One same muddy tint covers Republican Spain, France, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Turkey and the small countries on the frontiers of Russia, with the exception of Finland. Consequently the map becomes really sinister. There only remain two shining white archangels to save this continent which has fallen in the mire; who they are can be guessed. We know also that they do all they can in this direction. Thanks to them half Spain has just regained a presentable colour. One of the ar-

changels says: "Europe shall be fascist." The other declares at Nuremberg: "France and Great Britain are concerned because Spain may be conquered by us. Our concern, on the other hand, is that she may be conquered by Bolshevism."

And this man, Hitler, is floundering in the midst of inextricable internal difficulties, such as the everlasting trials for high treason, the opposition of the churches which has been transformed into politics, the demonstrations against war in a Berlin plunged in darkness, the refusal of the young men to enlist in the infantry, the impoverishment of the masses and the ruined economy. I have omitted some of the difficulties, and not the least important. The People's Front is in existence there, and is rising up against the system. But that does not matter... That "admirable" character, far from minding his own business, only concerns himself with the welfare of this poor Europe which is decrepit enough to allow itself to be tempted by Bolshevism; and Bolshevism, in the eyes of this "admirable" individual, is equivalent to human liberty and justice.

He does not "recognise" the Governments of liberty and social justice. But if we stop to think the matter over: has he ever been recognised? He has been admitted, despite his coup d'état which was disreputable intrigue, and having been admitted he is endured. Whether he should be "recognised" or not has still not been discussed. We are still free to do so.

Prehistoric Discovery Made by Soviet Scientists

LENINGRAD, Dec. 4.—An expedition commissioned by the Academy of Sciences has discovered in the valley of the River Don, near the little town of Kostensky, a piece of ground belonging either to the Glacial Epoch or to the era before the beginning of civilization. In various sections of this ground great quantities of prehistoric objects were found.



PERSONNEL of the Base Hospital.

AMERICAN HOSPITAL UNIT IN ACTION

(Continued from page 7.)

threaten, and our own planes cause us consternation until they come close enough to be recognized as ours. The droning of an airplane motor at the front is no comfort to the surgeon in the midst of an operation.

There is no safety against the deadly missiles dropped from above. One place is as dangerous as another, and under the most perilous circumstances the nurses continue to stand by the wounded. Heroism is the usual thing, and only contrary acts would be noticeable.

BACK TO BASE

During the second week the number of wounded decreases and there is a let-up in the concentrated strain of the work. The doctors, nurses and ambulance drivers are quite worn out by this time and welcome the temporary reprieve. The decrease in the number of wounded coming in means that we can anticipate a call in a few days to move out.

On the night of the twelfth day of our stay at the front rumors are spreading that our division is to move. The next day after lunch we receive our orders. All the patients who are fit to be evacuated are sent in ambulances to hospitals in the rear. One surgical team will remain behind to take care of the remaining patients until they are fit to be transported, a matter of perhaps another week.

Everything is gathered and packed into our trucks and autochir. The dismantling of the field hospital proceeds much slower than did the setting up. We are going back to the base; we need a rest. However, we have the feel-

ing that we are leaving a place where sufficient events to fill a life time have transpired in the space of two weeks. Early the next morning the caravan begins its journey to the base. "We are going home", is our way of expressing it.

BOMBED AGAIN

At mid-day we enter a quiet sleepy little village, and look about for a place to buy some food. Suddenly we hear the familiar shriek of sirens warning of the coming of enemy planes.

The whole village becomes transformed. From the doorways rush women and children. Many a mother has a babe in arms, and some drag other children behind them. Here and there one sees an old woman being hurried along by a younger person, or a fear-stricken mother running through the streets calling frantically for a child she is unable to find.

The streets are cleared. All are waiting anxiously in the places of refuge.

It comes—that familiar crashing explosion.

This time the bomb destroys the hospital in the village—a fascist farewell to our group.

Without further incident we reach our base, get down to routine again, and have time to reflect under comparatively safe circumstances upon the experiences we have been through. Up until now our participation in an all-absorbing purposeful work has blunted our awareness to the dangers encountered at the front. Away from the front we become increasingly more conscious of how grave they have been—but give us a little rest and the clamor to return to front duty begins over again.

Dr. IRVING BUSCH

GIRLS WHO WAR ON MICROBES

In the Institute of Biology and Serumtherapy at Madrid there are collections of rabbits and white rats for experimental purposes. Here in different departments about forty girls, chattering and laughing in their white overalls, handle deadly microbes against which they have been immunized. It is owing to them and to this laboratory that Madrid has been free of epidemics. They have prepared thousands of tubes of serum for injections. And they have also saved from tetanus and gangrene hundreds of wounded.

Doctor Alday, professor of the faculty of medicine at the University of Madrid, is in charge of the laboratory which is managed by Doctor Ruiz Falco and he told me that in spite of the most meticulous precautions there is some risk attached to the work. He said:—"The son of the scientist and Nobel prize winner, don Santiago Ramón y Cajal, caught Malta fever here as did also another worker, Vincente Hernandez; but there are very few such cases."

Gustamente inoculates against tetanus; Aznar against Malta fever and Partearroyo against bubonic plague. All of these pretty girls that you see, Felisa, Pepita, Matilde, Concepción, Pilar, ... socialists, communists, republicans, anarchists, live daily with these microbes.

There is one girl who deals with veterinary infections and there are serums against gangrene, tetanus, smallpox, typhoid and diphtheria. The rats came originally from the Pasteur Institute in Paris. They are now bred here.

"Our work has been tremendously increased during the war," Doctor Alday declared. "We have prepared as many as 2000 antityphoid injections at a time and once we had an order for a million."

"What is the rat serum used for?"

"Against pneumonia."

In two large rooms 20 or 30 girls are seated at tables preparing tubes of calcium which is administered to those wounded who are suffering from fractures. Calcium helps the bones to form again. The girls here are even prettier and livelier than in other parts of the building. Here is Felisa, a petite Madrid girl. She believes firmly in the Popular Front Government. Unlike most of the other girls who have fiancés at the front, she is unattached but she writes to a lot of soldier boys to amuse and encourage them, and they reply. Concha Olmo and Carmen Jimenez write long letters every day to their heroes. Pepita Palomares is on the eve of motherhood. Her husband is a postman in Carabanchel. Matilda de Gutierrez is envied by everyone because her fiancé is an aviator. Carmen Bernabeu is a Valencian girl. These girls work nine hours a day and do it gladly.

Pilar Díaz works in the section of cultures and is the daughter of a doctor. Her two brothers are despatch riders on the Valencia road. She deftly and fearlessly manipulates the imprisoned "flowers of evil" of the deadly fevers.



AMERICAN doctors at work.

Phil Detro --- "Long-Legged" Texan Commander of our Lincoln-Washington Battalion



CAPTAIN PHIL DETRO

You ask him why he came to Spain, how he came to hate fascism. You ask because his background is Mississippi and Texas, where reaction is strong in the ruling class. His folks were planters in Mississippi. If you trace the family you can go back to the Revolutionary War. One was a General in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, defending slavery. There are a whole string of slaveholders.

Today in Spain Captain Philip Detro is commanding the Lincoln-Washington Battalion of American volunteers, fighting slavery and slaveholders.

In Conroe, Texas, his home town, they are among those old families to whom Spain is too far away to care about unless it affects the price of cotton. At Rice Institute, then at Missouri where he studied journalism, but spent more of his time learning to fly, he knew little and cared less about any struggle between classes.

The struggle between classes — at Rice Institute — that is the sort of play on words Phil likes. You ask his middle name. It's Leighton. "Leighton?" you inquire. "Don't lay it on", he will most likely pop back, running the words together so you can't miss the pun on Leighton.

He crossed into Spain on April 1, coming to fly in the Loyalist air force. He speaks in a quiet, unhesitating, off-hand way. His soft, Texan drawl fits in perfectly with his lanky, big-boned six feet and four inches.

For six years he was a member of the Texas National Guard. All of them uneventful years.

He started out to find adventure. He wanted to see things. He shipped out on a boat headed for Europe. Once in Berlin he heard Hitler speak. This was in 1932, during the tense days. There was a clash. When he came out of it he had lost one good shirt sleeve.

He had gained a view of fascism—in action, headed for power. He had begun to think about these things.

He worked on ships running to the Far East. In China there were the oppression and extreme poverty of the coolies and the brutal callousness of the war-lords and the foreigners who were in China as agents for imperialist interests.

There was a sort of a job, after this, writing for a syndicate in New York. It paid less than not so good, but he wanted to write. At the age of nine, he wrote his first novel. It was also his last.

Someone mentioned one night that American fellows were going

to Spain to aid the fight against fascism. All this time he had been developing convictions, shedding old prejudices. But he hadn't done anything about it. This worried him.

Here was something. He started in search of a way to volunteer. He had no connections which might make it easy. Nobody who might help, knew him. It was difficult.

Finally he found someone. He volunteered. Then he went to his room and waited. He waited a long time, was impatient. He almost gave up hope. Then he received word.

Could he be ready to leave the next day?

He could. He did.

PLENTY OF STUFF

Spain, by this time, didn't need more aviators. Spain needed a greater, stronger, better trained and more disciplined army.

Okeh. Train then. Take your training seriously. Remember what you learned in the National Guard back home. Use that knowledge. Spain needed men who could do things this way. Phil Detro did.

Men liked him. They liked the quick smile that showed widely spaced but even teeth. He was

made a section leader in the Washington Battalion. Then Company Adjutant under Hans Amle. That's the way things stood, moving into Brunete.

Villanueva de la Cañada taken from the fascists. There are always changes in an action. Things happen to men and others step up to take their places.

Phil Detro took over command of a Company. He knew his stuff. He had the confidence and the natural leadership of the soldiers. He had courage.

War is the greatest of all tests of a man's convictions. The fascist guns pounded Phil Detro's convictions deeper. His anti-fascism was forged stronger in battle.

WOUNDED

Shrapnel laid him up at Mosquito Ridge. Later there was malaria. The effects still linger. In the States he weighed 190. Today the scales tip at 168 pounds.

He was back again with the re-organized Lincoln-Washington at Belchite. Immediately, he pitched into that battle of grenades.

The fascists erected a barricade in the streets. They commanded the sector. Phil can throw. Together with Major Merrihan, he crawled out onto the rooftops, loaded with grenades. One after another he slung them.

In the street fighting, the long-legged Texan was in the lead. Later, he was cited for bravery. He was made Battalion Adjutant.

"I just happened to be around every time they needed someone," is his explanation of his steady advance to positions of responsibility.

You ask him why he came to Spain. The answer seems so simple, so right, to him that the question is superfluous. He is fighting slavery. He is adding his force and knowledge in a tangible way to a struggle for things he believes right and decent.

"I'm getting re-paid a hundred times for anything I can do. I'm learning things.

"I'll make mistakes," he says. "I've made them. I only want men to believe that I'm honest, that I'm trying the best way I know how. That's what's important."

Men do believe that about Captain Philip Detro, American anti-fascist volunteer.

B. O.



LINCOLN-WASHINGTON comrades under the shower machine.



MACKENZIE-PAPINEAU machine gunners cleaning up after the Euzenat de Ebro battles.

"They Seemed Delighted"

Another story from Germany: Hitler and Goebbels were touring the countryside doing propaganda work among the peasants. They were dashing along at 60 m. p. h. in a fine car, and everything was going beautifully.

Suddenly their chauffeur had the misfortune to run over and kill a pig.

The situation was not too good. Hitler didn't like it at all. That the Fuehrer should kill a peasant's pig was going a bit too far. So he sent off Goebbels to the nearest farm to explain matters, and, with bribes or threats if necessary to set the matter right.

Ten minutes later, back came Goebbels loaded up with fruit, vegetables, chickens and eggs.

"I suppose you gave a fabulous price for those things", said Hitler.

"No," replied Goebbels, in a puzzled voice. "They gave them to me."

"Gave them to you? Do you mean to say they weren't annoyed?"

"Not a bit of it," replied Goebbels, "they seemed delighted."

"But what did you say," asked Hitler, "to arrange it all so nicely?"

"Hardly anything," said Goebbels. "I just said 'Heil Hitler!' I have the swine run over and killed."

Mysterious Explosion In Munitions Plant

LONDON.—In the munition factory of Waetham Abbey, which is under government control, a violent explosion occurred. The accident was mysterious and has raised great suspicion. The government has ordered an immediate investigation. There were no victims, but the damage done to the plant is considerable.

It is believed that the enemies of government control are responsible for the explosion.

HOLLYWOOD MISSES BIG CHANCE

The attack on Quinto went out across a flat stretch of ground bare of cover. We could see the Ebro valley beyond the village, as green and rich as the rocky tauleland was barren. It lay beyond the enemy's lines like the Promised Land.

That attack was faultlessly planned. We were in Quinto the next day. Only a handful of fascists were left in the church, and we pounded them out of that in time. But it took us two days more to capture Perberel Hill. The place was a natural fortress, surrounded by a steep ravine, bridged in one place only by a narrow neck of land. We were kept off that by barbed wire and tank traps.

If anything could have induced a big Hollywood producer to come out to Spain and watch that hill being taken, he would have wanted to buy up the battle, lock, stock and barrel. Had his inclinations taken him into the fascist lines rather than our own, so much the worse for him. Our artillery and gun-fire turned that place into something worse than hell.

But what a spectacle! Attempts were made to assault the hill before it was ready to give in. The Twenty-Fourth Battalion, attacking on one end, reached the bottom of the slope and were driven

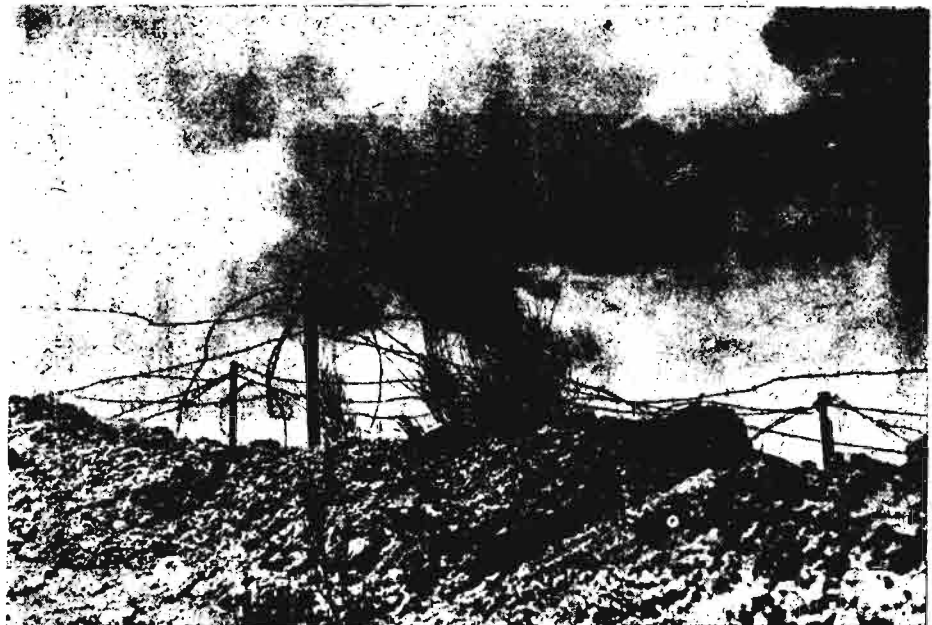
back by hand grenades. There was work for the artillery to do yet; German defences take a bit of smashing.

Guns of all calibres pounded away until evening of the next day. At length we saw two figures jump out on the opposing parapet and run down the hill, waving white handkerchiefs. Cheering broke out in our lines, and men climbed on the sandbags, waving their arms and shouting "Venga! Venga!"

Not all the fascists were of one mind. Machine gun fire broke out from the spur of the hill, and the cheering Republicans climbed hastily back. But the thing had started. More men came running out, in twos and threes.

Then against the sky-line at the other end of the ridge we saw our own troops going up to the assault and dropping into the fascist trenches. The battle was over. Soon the prisoners were being marshalled on the crest and marched down to the valley below.

It seemed from their expressions that this was no disappointment to the fascist rank and file. Not surprising — they had endured two days of hell for a number of airy promises and a few centimos a day in hard cash. As for the future, some of them may have guessed that even a few centimos was no safe bet.



LETTERS from HOME

British Labour M. P.'s

Write to I. B. Fighters.

Dear Comrade M.:

Thank you for your letter and the Souvenir Card, which is most impressive.

We shall certainly do our utmost in this country to try to get assistance for our Spanish comrades, but the difficulties with the present National Government are very great. We are putting all the pressure that we can to bear on the Government in order to get the policy of Non-intervention brought to an end and shall continue to do this in the hope that it will enable the Spanish workers to gain an ultimate victory.

We all look with immense admiration on the work being done by the International Brigade and wish you all the very best of luck.

Yours sincerely,

Signed:

STAFFORD CRIPPS

Dear Comrade:

Very many thanks for your letter to hand today.

Let me assure you and your Comrades of the I. B. that we are fully conscious of the urgency and the gravity of the situation

and will do our best to mobilise the people of Britain behind the people of Spain. And in particular do we recognise the need of ending the farce of Non-intervention.

With the best of good wishes.
Yours fraternally,

Signed:

JIM GRIFFTH.

Antifascist sentiment

Growing Stronger in Austria.

Dear Oliver:

My time is pretty full up these days and I have a special routine, though this is varied at times. In the summer, I spent some weekends over at Elford Hall (where the Basque kiddies are staying) and acted as Electrician's Mate. My chief job was to cut up hundreds (or were they thousands) of lengths of conduit and screw the ends, but I filled in the time crawling among spiders' webs in the rafters, and by fitting Rawlplugs in inaccessible positions.

Jack and I spent our holiday in Austria this year, had a very good time and learned that the socialist idea is by no means dead there.

There is quite a lot of anti-fascist feeling and we were pleased to see that where some bright lad had scrawled Nazi Swastikas on the staircase of our digs in Vienna, they had been scrawled over and replaced by hammers and sickles.

Here's the best of luck and a victorious peace.

CHICK

GHOST HOUSES

What's in a house?

Everybody likes to know, at one time or another. A house, under normal circumstances, contains the background of a man's life. Get a look inside, and you can have a good guess at what sort of a man your neighbour is.

Under circumstances of war, houses attain a new significance. They are liable to contain the background of a man's death. The soldier who is fighting with a house in front of him has a better reason than curiosity to know what is in it.

Most Spanish houses are white. White houses are stock properties of the Civil War. Time and again our troops have had to shelter from a sniper's aim or a stream of machine gun bullets coming from the windows of a white house. They stand, still and bleached like skeletons. Nothing looks so dead.

Waiting in a hastily dug hole, sometimes for hours, a soldier may have little else to look at except one of these ghost houses. It gathers a gloomy significance. Later, when the action is over and the Brigade pulls out to the rear, the sight of houses with smoking chimneys, linen on the line and life in and about them seems almost as strange as it is welcome.

When the Brigade is at rest, and large numbers of men have to be quartered together, the big houses that once belonged to rich landowners or industrial proprietors prove very serviceable. There were many vacated at the outbreak of the war by men who left hurriedly with what they could collect, feeling that life on the fascist side would suit them better than staying where they were.

Over the tracks of the old life, a new life riots in. There is no one there to take offence but the family portraits, who may be shocked at so much husky vitality. By the looks of them, they would be shocked at anything.

There are no ghost houses for troops at rest—not, at least, to an army that is fighting, like ours, for more life. The old bones, the weary remnants of the rich departed, are stacked away in corners and attics. Books, documents, photographs, title deeds pile up in dusty store-rooms, an almost everlasting banquet for moths and the other insects that share with their former owners a taste for such things. They lie unnoticed. The house is shaking with life.

M. T.

Queipo de Llano Hurt in Auto Smash-up

Last minute news inform us that the fascist General, Queipo de Llano, met with an automobile accident on the highway between Valladolid and Burgos. The traitor General suffered a fractured arm.

*

All Political Parties Dissolved in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 3.—The dictator, President Vargas, has ordered the dissolution of all political parties in the country, without exception.

NOTICE

All American and Canadian comrades are urged to write in and tell of their experiences in the various services of the Army; their experiences at the front and in the rear; their reactions to what is going on in Spain today; etc. We want the truth. It is necessary that we get all this information so that in nightly short wave broadcasts to North America we can give Canadian and Americans an accurate picture of what "Our Boys" are doing in Spain. Comrades, whenever you have any interesting experiences, write them down and send them in to THE VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY, S. B. L. PLAZA ALTOZANA, 63E, ALBACETE



SPANISH GIRL at a machine in a Madrid munitions factory.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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Madrid, December 13 - 1937

BRITISH LABOUR DELEGATION VISITS SPAIN

Major C. R. Attlee, leader of the Parliamentary Labour Party and of the Opposition in the House of Commons, Noel Baker M. P., and Ellen Wilkinson M. P., both members of the Executive Committee of the Labour Party, together with Mr. Dugdale, private secretary to Major Attlee and parliamentary candidate for Birmingham, formed an official Labour Delegation which has just concluded a visit to Spain.

The Delegation had been invited to come to Spain by Dr. Juan Negrin, President of the Council, and they made the utmost use of their stay here to find out for themselves the real conditions of the country. At Barcelona, Valencia, and Madrid they had various interviews with prominent Government and Military officials, and they utilised their time to the fullest extent in order to get in contact with the civil population and the soldiers to discover the feelings and the spirit of the Spanish people.

While in Madrid they paid a visit to the trenches in the Centre Front, seeing with their own eyes the battlefield of Democracy. Later they had an interview with General Miaja, Commissar Anton of the Centre Army, and Jesús Hernández, Minister of Education.

On December 5th they were received by Comrade Luigi Gallo, Inspector of War for the International Brigade, at the War Commissariat where they had explained to them the role and some of the achievements of the Brigade. Here also they were met by Lieutenant-Colonel Copic and Dave Doran, Commander and Political Commissar respectively of the 15th Brigade, and Captain Fred Copeman, Commander of the British Battalion who had come spe-

LABOUR GROUP IN TALK TO THE ENGLISH SPEAKING OF THE 15TH BRIGADE EXPRESS DETERMINATION TO CARRY ON FIGHT FOR SPANISH CAUSE IN BRITAIN. MAJOR ATTLEE CONDEMNS "NON-INTERVENTION" AS "FARCE"

cially to Madrid to invite them to visit the Brigade to which are attached their countrymen.

IMPRESSIVE RECEPTION

Their reception at the Brigade the following day was a fitting climax to their whirlwind tour. When they reached the town in which the Brigade is quartered they were met by the British Battalion and the Lincoln-Washington American Battalions drawn up at attention, with the scene lighted by gasoline torches held by the soldiers. The uneven, yellow glare outlining the trim lines of soldiers and the people of the town, crowd-

ed along the walls and balconies, prompted one of the speakers to compare it with scenes during the Chartist movement in England. The Chartists fighting for suffrage and other democratic rights over a hundred years ago had demonstrated by torchlight for their demands.

The First Company of the British Battalion received the honorary name of "Major Attlee Company" in the presence of Division General Carlos Walter, Inspector of War for the International Brigade, Luigi Gallo, Commander of the Brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel Copic, Brigade Political Commis-

sar, Dave Doran, and the entire delegation.

Lieutenant-Colonel Copic, former member of the Yugo-Slavian parliament, spoke at the ceremony in the name of the Brigade.

Major Attlee, himself an experienced soldier, spoke to the assembled Battalions.

"We are proud", he said, "of the deeds of those who have died and of those who still live. We have seen and know the spirit of the Spanish people and, like you, are sure of their victory."

In referring to "non-intervention" he stated "it is truly a farce. It should have been over long ago. Everybody knows it is a farce".

He promised, in the name of the entire delegation, to take the truth of the struggle back to Britain and to do everything in their power "to try to bring pressure to bear to change this policy so fraught with danger to Democracy".

BAKER CHEERED

Noel Baker in his speech referred to British tradition in relation to Spain during the Civil War of 1837 against the monarchy and oppression. "England sent 10,000 volunteers to aid the Spanish people in the struggle for Liberty and opened her armouries to send arms".

He was greeted with cheers when he declared, "I wish we were doing the same today".

"I am not very proud of the part our British Government has played towards democratic Spain", he said, cheered by Major Attlee.

Major Attlee led the assembly in a loyalist salute when Captain Fred Copeman called for a one minute silence in honour of the members of the British Battalion who had fallen fighting for De-



MAJOR ATTLEE, at the forefront, on the balcony of Madrid's War Ministry. General MIAJA (center) is talking to ANTON, Commissar of War of the Army of the Center.

(Continued on page 12.)

World Trade Union Unity Scores Big Advance

In recent weeks the cause of working class unity has advanced towards one decisive victory.

From November 23rd to the 26th the delegations of the International Federation of Trade Unions and of the Central Council of the Soviet Trade Unions met together in Moscow to discuss the fundamental principles on which trade union unity can be established on the basis of the anti-war, anti-Fascist struggle. The agreement arrived at has to be submitted for approval to the Bureau and the General Council of the I. F. T. U. on the one hand and the Central Council of the Soviet unions on the other, but this agreement lays the foundations for the entry of the Soviet Trade Unions into the I. F. T. U.

REACTION DISPLEASED

The reactionary press has received the news with grinding of teeth and howls of rage — the I. F. T. U. will be delivered over to the "Stalinist dictators", etc. In 1925, when the General Council of the British Trade Union Congress was supporting unity between the I. F. T. U. and the Russian movement, the reactionary press ran a sustained campaign, which for virulence and misrepresentation has rarely been

in the forefront of the fight against unity have tested their policy to its bitter end, while the General Council of the British T. U. C. is not quite the same champion of unity as it was in those days. But one thing remains unchanged — the words "international working-class unity" sound no more melodious to reactionary ears in 1937 than they did in 1925. The depth of the reactionaries' anger will be the measure of the victory against war and Fascism.

It is earnestly to be hoped that



at its present meeting the Executive of the I. F. T. U. will reach a decision favourable to the speedy incorporation of the Soviet trade unions, in accordance with the Moscow agreements. An International Federation of Trade Unions including in its ranks the millions of Soviet Trade Unionists, and soon, let us hope, those of the U. S. A. as well, will be an International with vast possibilities of mass pressure against the complacency and the complicity, the vacillations and the retreats of some Governments before the Fascist aggressors.

Another problem the I. F. T. U. Executive will have to consider is that of the circumstances which compelled the majority of the organisations in the U. G. T. to remove their former Executive. This problem has already been solved to a great extent by the Spanish Unionists themselves, who have shown that they will not tolerate the use of their great organisation as a manoeuvring ground for personal ambition and individual interest which do not coincide with those of the Spanish people. Their action has been further strengthened by the decision of the People's Front Government to recognise the new Executive as the legitimate Ex-

ecutive of the U. G. T. It is fervently to be desired that the delegation which the I. F. T. U. sends to Spain will set the seal of its approval on the labour of unity already realised by the new Executive.

While there is an advance in the international trade union field, there is a setback in the political field. On November 25th the Labour and Socialist International rejected the Communist International's offer to begin joint conversations with a view to bringing international unity into the realm of reality. In their letter of refusal Adler and De Brouckère claim that the Annemasse agreement did not provide for joint conversations. In the text of that agreement we read, however: "They (i. e. the delegates of the two Internationals) are united in their desire that fresh contacts should be made with the least possible delay for a more detailed study of the concrete ways and means envisaged for providing Spain with material and moral assistance."

Months have gone by. We are still waiting for these "contacts with the least possible delay", and although "hope deferred maketh the heart sick" we have not yet lost our hope that better councils will prevail.

IN WHOSE INTERESTS?

In France it will be remembered that the Socialist comrades postponed the drawing up of a unity pact with the Communists on the grounds that what they wanted was organisational unity. Now the Central Committee of the

French Socialist Party has taken a decision which breaks up the unification commission, though it declares that the S. P. remains true to the policy of united action. Only Zyromski voted against this decision.

The resolution was quoted with great satisfaction in all the reactionary French press to the tune of "It's never too late to mend", and an accompaniment of oblique references to a "French" Socialism.

It is ironic that one of the pretexts for this decision was the article on the XXth Anniversary of the October Revolution by none other than Comrade Dimitrov, whom the whole Spanish people knows as one of the very best fighters for unity.

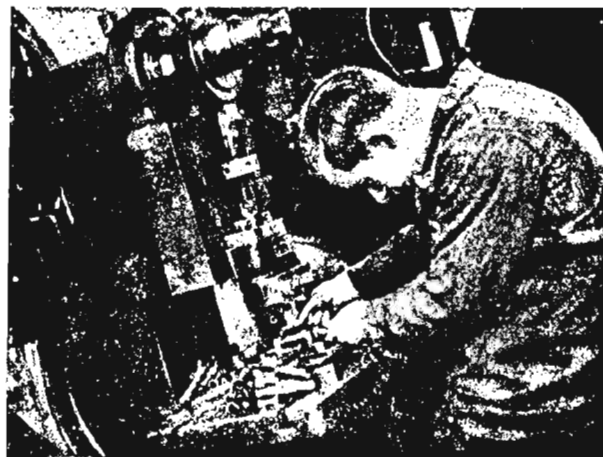
It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the campaign devoted to breaking united action and preventing the full realisation of the People's Front programme has borne fruit in this particular instance; just at a time when a widespread reactionary plot against the French State is coming to light.

The balance sheet of unity is showing both gains and losses. The situation demands that the gains increase and that there be no more losses. The Fascist aggressors are becoming ever more shameless and the Governments of the Western European democracies continue to display a hypocritical impotence, a policy of inviting the burglar in for a drink and a friendly chat, showing him the next door neighbour's house and hoping for the best.

A. M. E.



paralleled. The General Council were told that their proceedings were "gravely mutinous", and the "Daily Telegraph" informed the world that their endeavours were "a matter of national humiliation". There have been many changes in the array of forces since 1925 — those leaders of German Social Democracy who were then



MAKING MUNITIONS in one of Madrid's modern war plants.

DISCIPLINE IN OUR ARMY

EDITORIAL

In the course of nearly a year and a half, the character of the Spanish Civil War has radically changed. Two trained armies are now facing each other. The outcome of events will depend more on strategy and less on chance. When the first International Column was formed, speed alone was essential; units were sent into the line with a minimum of training and co-ordination. The International Brigades are now an integral part of a disciplined fighting force.

If it had been possible to call up a fully disciplined army from the Spanish soil at the outbreak of the war, the subsequent history of events would have been very different. The Government's task in those days was to stop the advancing rebels by whatever means they could lay hands on. There was no time to organize discipline on a large scale. It was necessary then to rely on the self-discipline that is inspired in men who are fighting for what they believe in.

Self-discipline may suffice for a small group of men who remain in constant touch with one another. As the scale of organization widens and the work of the small units is co-ordinated, the problem of discipline is enormously increased. It becomes essential that the central command shall be able to rely upon the units carrying out instructions as quickly and thoroughly as possible. In other words, unconditional obedience is vital to the formation of a fully trained army.

In the early days a good deal of discussion went on in the International ranks. Even as late as Brunete, some men would discuss the merits of an order instead of jumping to obey it. This sort of behavior is a legacy of the old world, and shows how hard it is even for an anti-fascist to break his old habits. In his own country he often opposed authority, because it was in the hands of the wrong men. He is fighting against their allies now, but the position has changed. The authority under which he serves is on his own side. He realizes now that every order is part of a general plan, that failure to carry out every order may endanger the whole plan.

This has been the volunteer's difficulty, to recognize the difference between one kind of authority and another, and to change his attitude accordingly. It is a difficulty which has been largely overcome. There is now a spirit in the units of the Brigade which is quite new. Recent recruits, who have been trained on the basis of the new discipline, have materially helped the change. The older members have responded. One of the most interesting aspects of life in the Brigade has been the capacity of the men to change. Such is the influence exercised upon them by their common purpose that its changing requirements have a corresponding effect on the men themselves.

One of the hardest disciplinary lessons that our volunteers had to learn was the necessity of saluting. At first glance it seems a small matter, and even appears to introduce an element of class-distinction between officers and men. It reminded the men too much of the respect they were asked to show at home to those who exploited them.

Thanks to the institution of political commissars, whose duty it is to act as a link between the men and the command, the reason for saluting is now generally understood. There is no question of exploitation or empty respect, since the officers of the Brigade hold their positions by virtue of merit and service alone, and every soldier has an equal chance of rising to rank. Saluting is a simple device for assisting an officer to have his orders promptly obeyed. The soldier who is reluctant to salute is reluctant to obey; his reluctance means that his mind is occupied with the thought that he is "as good a soldier" as his officer, and if that is the case, he is likely to consider his own decisions as good as those he receives. Such a man cannot be relied on.

The problem is fading out. It is rarely now that you hear objections raised in the Brigade to the new regulations. This reflects both on the command, whom the men respect, and on the men themselves, who want to get the war won. Above all, it is a tribute to the powerful sense of unity which makes such changes possible, and it seems to persist through everything and despite everything.



THE STUDENTS of the Lagasca Institute of the F. U. E. (Federation of University Students) are the "Madrinas de Guerra" of the 15th Brigade. These young students visited the International Brigade Headquarters of the Madrid Commissariat recently and were entertained by the Anglo-American delegation there.



THE WAY the Madrid International Brigade headquarters looked last month during the double anniversary celebration: of one year of the successful defense of Madrid, and twenty years of the victories of Socialism in the U. S. S. R.

A CLOSE-UP OF OUR CHIEF OF STAFF

Major Robert H. Merriman of the Fifteenth Brigade was once a university lecturer. Because he wears spectacles and has a quiet voice, some believe he has never been anything else. This is far from true. Bob Merriman's life has been tough, even hard-boiled.

True to the old American custom, he started living away from home at a very early age. He had worked through a number of jobs before he came to have any pro-



MAJOR MERRIMAN and his wife Marion.

fessional connection with books. The thirst for knowledge caught him when he was working in a logging camp, where he met a man who had read a little about much. He was inspired to do the same, and with this intention he trekked off to Nevada University, where he planned to spend a year studying as many subjects as he could cope with in that time.

The only subjects he had no interest in were those which he was compelled by statute to take, as a first-year student. In the effort to avoid them, he showed more initiative than any man had shown before him, and discovered a forgotten statute which gave him a reliable alibi. He got away with it. Before anyone else was able to do the same, the statute was formally repealed.

Bob Merriman's ideas about life in general are clear enough, but so far as his personal destiny is concerned he does not even trouble to rough-hew it. Provided he can work for his general ideas, he is indifferent how he earns his living. Mental and physical work are equally congenial to him. He may plan ahead, but he is ready to see his plans changed by circumstances without regret. His philosophy is very serviceable.

His single year of study lengthened to four; his many subjects narrowed to one, economics, on which he became an authority.

Just why his plans changed it is difficult to say, but suspicion rests on the girl he fell in love with the day he enrolled as a student. With a stroke of poetic justice, he married her the day they both left. During the four intervening years, both man and girl had to keep themselves. The girl had given a new twist to the old American custom by having her family walk out on her. They had now walked back again, and they, too, had to be kept.

Bob Merriman's small store of savings wore out with his shoes. Feeling he had a capacity for window dressing, he offered his services to a department store for a new pair of shoes, and got the contract. His ability earned him promotion to the counters, where he sold a corset so successfully that the manager, who watched him do it, gave him a permanent job. From then on he never lacked work. He reckons the oddest thing he ever did was to be a salesman in an undertaker's par-

lour. Two years of university life had convinced him that it was all rather reactionary. He resigned from his fraternity—the only man who had ever done so. He resigned from eight other societies. He was unable to resign from the military R. O. T. C., which he had joined for the pay. As things turned out, this was fortunate, as his military grounding has since proved useful to the Spanish Republican Army. Had he been able to resign, he would probably have done so, as a protest against the exaggerated importance placed by

the authorities on military instruction. He made his opposition evident in the student paper, of which he was manager. In return for this he was denounced in public by the President, who refrained only from referring to him by name. This did not deter him from remaining another two years.

On leaving the University, a married man, he took a job digging ditches, which he liked. He is probably the only man in the Fifteenth Brigade who likes digging. An influential friend got him his next job at the University of California, where he eventually became a lecturer in economics. During this time he lived in a single room with his wife and the peripatetic family.

Despite the family, life became too still. They moved out and Merriman took a job in a Ford plant. Just at this time the San Francisco general strike broke out, and Merriman plunged into it, becoming an I. L. D. organizer. His knowledge of strategy warned him that it would be wise not to let his former employers at the University know about this. It might have stood out a mile; but as Merriman says, professors live in glass houses and never look out of them. When later he asked the professors to finance him to the Soviet Union on a traveling fellowship, they saw through nothing. He sailed with his wife.

As soon as he arrived he began collecting material for a book on the economics of collective farming. As a preliminary, he investi-

gated life on eighty farms. His book was already begun when the war broke out in Spain. At the same moment the current two-year period expired. This was too much. He packed up and became a soldier again.

Merriman arrived in Spain in January and joined the first American group. By the time it became the original Lincoln Battalion, he was its adjutant. He initiated a movement to establish efficient training centres in the open, the first of which was built at Pozo Rubio and destined for the Lincolns. They were already in camions, on the point of moving to their base, when an order came that they were to go straight to the front. The February trouble was starting at Jarama.

They spent the night in Albacete. Rifles were issued. In the morning each man fired three shots into the side of a hill with his own rifle, and that was the extent of his training with it. Events put Merriman in command of the Battalion the day they moved up. They went straight into the battle and laid the foundation of the Battalion's good record. They gained ground, even in those difficult days.

After twelve days of fighting, on Feb. 27th, Merriman was wounded in the arm. The hospital doctors were short of medical supplies, and put his arm in builder's plaster, which is several times heavier than its medical equivalent. He carried the weight and the wound around together.

When his wife heard the news, she caught the first aeroplane out, contrary to his instructions. Only recently she returned to the States to make propaganda, as one who had worked close to the war.

While still convalescent, Merriman took charge of the Officers' School. From here he was transferred to take command of the new Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion, whose thorough grounding is largely due to his efforts. He came up to Headquarters while the brigade was at rest after the Brunete offensive, and took over his present duties as Chief of Staff. A waft of additional efficiency blew in with him.

Since then he has been through the actions at Quinto, Belchite and Fuentes, a familiar figure, with a heartening coolness and a Latent head.

M. T.



OUR "GLORIOSA".

Two New Tasks Face the International Brigades

In the present situation in Spain the volunteers in the International Brigades are faced with new tasks in addition to those which they have been undertaking up to now. Firstly there is the question of giving effective help in the military and political training of the new recruits—an indispensable condition which determines a unit's fighting value—and secondly that of promoting the maximum number of new Spanish cadres from the ranks.

Our Army is growing every day; new recruits are flowing in. The necessities of the war make it impossible to give these men long months of training. The new recruits have to be trained in a few weeks and made into good soldiers, acquainted with military tactics. And it is precisely the "old soldiers", those who have gone through long months of war who should become the organisers, the moving spirits and the instructors among these new recruits.

What would be the fighting value of a unit with a handful of trained men, but with the great majority of its members inadequately prepared? It is obvious that its value could only be negative.



We must therefore co-ordinate and concentrate all our efforts with the aim of providing our Army with the qualities which will enable it to inflict a decisive defeat on Fascism. We should profit by every opportunity, by every moment of rest to carry out training exercises, with old and new soldiers together, so that the experience of the older soldiers can be passed on to the new recruits. Let the more experienced soldiers give an example of discipline and goodwill, wherever they are. Only in this way will our International Brigades be able to

fulfil their role and maintain their reputation as shock units.

To bring this about, however, there are other conditions which are necessary.

In our International Brigades the best possible relationships must exist between the Internationals and the Spaniards. We must succeed in forming a united and monolithic whole, despite differences of languages and temperaments.

When reproaches are made about poor work among the recruits, one often hears the reply: "But we have no Spanish cadres to work among them." They ask for cadres everywhere—from the Division, from the Army Corps, or the Government. Obviously, they get nothing or very little. The fact is that the same difficulties are encountered everywhere. There is only one solution—to develop new forces, new cadres.

We must know how to bring out the comrades with intelligence and ability who are hidden in the ranks and set them in responsible posts.

The quality and the qualifications of the cadres in our International Brigades should be measured by the number of new leading for-

ces they have been able to draw from the ranks.

It should be regarded as humiliating for the leaders of our Brigades to have to ask for cadres from other units. We ourselves must create them, and in such large numbers that we are able to send them to units that stand in need of them.

I know that there are comrades who have a feeling of pride when they count all the International officers and commissars in the Brigades: "See how many good elements we, the Volunteers for Liberty, have given to the Spanish cause".

It is certainly true that we have given many good elements to the Army. But we should take much more pride in being able to say how we have contributed to bringing out a large number of new Spanish cadres from our ranks.

By giving active assistance in the fulfilment of these two tasks—the training of the new recruits and the formation of new Spanish cadres—we shall have done a great deal towards strengthening and reinforcing our Army.

L. GALLO

Commissar Inspector
of the International Brigades.

WAR WAGED AGAINST ILLITERACY IN THE 45TH DIVISION

The 45th Division has given us the balance sheet of one month's activity on an important front. In the 12th Brigade 123 individual lessons have been given and 77 collective lessons. In two Battalions of the 13th Brigade the figures are 34 individual lessons and 40 collective lessons. The total for the whole Division is 255 individual lessons and 141 collective lessons. Out of 717 illiterates 60 have learned to read and write.

WHO'S DUMB?

"They're talking now of recognizing Franco as a belligerent."

"Are they? It hasn't taken eighteen months for some of us to recognize that."



ONE OF OUR cooks in the 15th Brigade getting the grub ready out in the open.

SCANDINAVIAN PAPERS SEIZED BY NAZIS

Berlin police have seized all Scandinavian periodicals, including Swedish, Danish and Norwegian, for publishing caricatures of Goering and Schacht. The Gestapo considered the pictures offensive.

Munitions men

Exult again

And say "What could be finer

With Spain at war

And — what is more —

Japan invading China."

The Nazi censors have gone to work on the film "Lloyds of London", now showing in Berlin. One piece of dialogue they cut out was the line in which a boy asks his uncle, "Does it go well with the old man's spirit?"

SPAIN'S MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE TRACES AGRARIAN REFORMS IN RECENT INTERVIEW

In the forefront of constructive work carried on by the Republic must be put that of Agrarian Reform. Since July, 1936 the condition of the Spanish peasant has been changed altogether and this lot has improved from day to day. The famous decree of October 7th, 1936, nationalised the lands of the great rebel proprietors and handed over the entire use of them to those who cultivate the soil. I asked Vicente Uribe, the Minister of Agriculture, to tell me about the agrarian policy of the government.

PLIGHT OF PEASANT

"The agrarian question has always played a large part in Spanish politics. Before the rebellion the peasants lived under a semi-feudal regime. Almost half the fertile land belonged to the big proprietors -- six great landlords possessed between them 264,000 hectares, entire provinces! The big estates of more than 250 hectares owned a third of the cultivable land, while many of the peasants had not even half a hectare. The farmers and small peasants, who rent land, payed enor-

mous tribute; 40 to 60 % of the produce of their labors went to the proprietors!

"The condition of the agricultural laborers was even worse. Before the rebellion, in the province of Albuquerque the workers were still paid only a single meal for toiling from sunrise to sunset. In Granada a day's work was paid four pesetas, in Extremadura 2.50, in Salamanca and Toledo 1.50. As for women they received 60 centimes at Toledo; and at Valencia an orange-picker received 2 pesetas for ten hours' work.

"This was not all. The agricultural workers only obtained these laughable salaries when their work was needed. During the off season, for months and months, they did not earn a penny. And their lives were more wretched than those of serfs in the Middle Ages. It was very simple: they died of hunger. In Extremadura the peasants were reduced to toasting acorns for food. But as the oak forests belonged to the lords they were arrested by civil guards when the peasants were caught gathering acorns and thrown into jail!

"The agrarian problem was one

of the underlying causes of the fall of the monarchy, and the Republic at once attempted to solve it. It was decided to distribute land to the peasants after having indemnified the proprietors. The misfortune was that the government was composed of men who were perhaps sincere republicans, but many of whom were also big landowners, or related to big landowners. This explains the weakness and dilatoriness with which the reform which was decreed in the enthusiasm of the first days of the first days was executed.

REACTION HALTS REFORMS

"Nevertheless, in 1932, after the pronouncement of Sanjurjo, the government suddenly became uneasy and decided to punish the monarchist rebels decreeing that they should be expropriated without indemnity. But the reaction was violent and when the Lleras-Gil Robles government came into power, all agrarian reform was shelved. The few small advantages which the peasants had obtained were removed. During the 'two black years', 1934 and 1935, there was a return to

the worst days of the monarchy.

"When the peasants tried to defend their rights, the landlords refused, purely and simply to allow them to work on their land. It was a sort of agricultural lock-out. 'We', they said cynically, 'we' have money, we can wait. Whereas, you, if you do not submit, we shall not give you any work and you will die of hun-



ger'. The peasants sometimes tried to rise, but the landlords put the hated civil guards on their track, the watch-dog of the big landlords.

"And this is why the triumph of the Popular Front on the 16th of February, 1936, was so overwhelming: all the peasants were against the reaction, they had voted en masse for the Popular Front. Also the first thought of the February government was to reestablish the agrarian laws of '31', and to raise the wages of the agricultural workers. But reaction would not admit defeat, the landlords continued to boycott the peasants. In May 1936, near Albacete, the Civil Guard killed 25 peasants. Fascism was already aligning itself against the will of the people.

"And then came the rebellion of July 18th, which broke in the middle of the harvest season. Naturally, in the country, as in the towns, everything was disorganised, people only thought of rushing to arms, and in the general disorder the crops ran a risk of being lost. The government understood the gravity of the situation and its first care was, in spite of all difficulties, to assure the gathering of the harvest. In every village agricultural committees were formed, composed of municipal counsellors and representatives of trade union organisations and political parties of the People's Front.



VICENTE URIBE, Minister of Agriculture.

"A great deal was done to give publicity and explain to the peasants the importance of field work to win the war. Everyone was mobilised. It was a complete success. The crops were not lost and the sowing was accomplished with such enthusiasm — large areas of uncultivated ground were sown — that the wheat harvest in 1937 was greater than in 1935 and 1936."

GREAT STRIDES

"Was it really on the 4th of September 1936 that the portfolio of Agriculture was entrusted to you?"

"Yes, and my party realised that the problem must be immediately and fundamentally dealt with. My first act, as minister, was to give a legal standing to the will of the peasants. At one blow the agrarian reform which had been talked of for 30 years was realised. On the 7th of October, 1936, we published the decree which is the agricultural charter of the Spanish Republic. The use and the enjoyment of the lands thus nationalised was given to the peasants and the municipal collectives."

"Under the monarchy in 24 years the Institute of Agrarian Reform had distributed 6,800 hectares of land to the peasants. The Republic from 1931 to 1936 distributed 164,000 hectares, and from the triumph of the People's Front in February 1936 up to July, 712,000 hectares. We, since the rebellion, have distributed more than three million hectares! Thus, thanks to the decree of the 7th of October the agricultural workers and the small proprietors have received land, the farmers and peasant owners have ceased to pay rent to the rebel proprietors, and the small proprietors have naturally kept their land as well as all those other landowners who have remained faithful to the Republic."

S. T.

SOVIETS ENJOY SPANISH FRUIT

In the first week of December 30,000 cases of Spanish oranges and lemons entered the Soviet Union through the port of Odessa. By the end of the month 100,000 cases of this fruit will be received.

"MORE AND BETTER BOOKS" IS THE SLOGAN IN LOYAL SPAIN

In Loyal Spain today books are almost as important as bullets. One of the tremendous tasks the People's Front Government has undertaken is the liquidation of the mass illiteracy which is one of the characteristics of the feudalism that the fascists want to perpetuate. Under the slogan "Culture is also a weapon against Fascism", mind is being united with heart in the battle. Thus books are beginning to flow throughout the land in a veritable flood. With a magnificent response the Spanish people have taken to learning and reading. This work of education, which began at the very outset of the war, has already produced results so widespread that the statistical estimate of 45 percent total illiteracy in pre-war Spain must be revised downwards many degrees for the loyal zone. It represents one of the greatest achievements of a people struggling with their lives for democracy and all that goes with it.

The English-speaking fighters in Spain are, of course, a highly literate group. Many are extremely well-read. But the contagion of a land and a people full of living convictions and driving ideas, has



aroused in them a thirst for reading matter equally noteworthy. Thousands of volumes in English have been gathered and organized, and libraries exist in each battalion, in each hospital, in the transport squadrons, in rearguard posts. Everywhere that Anglo-Americans go, books are sure to go with them — as well as papers, pamphlets and magazines. Needs and moods that books can answer are satisfied now with a considerable degree of general satisfaction.

But it was not always thus. These libraries were built with great effort and some expense. And it took a long time. Books had to be bought and more had to be



ENGLISH-SPEAKING comrades in one of their libraries at the front.

brought. They came from Madrid and Valencia, from New York and London. Cultural committees did what they could here in Spain; friends at home did the rest. Civilized men must know, must learn, must read — even in war. Let the book-burners do the reverse — even in peace.

Subjects vary greatly, but books on political matters compete with light fiction for main popularity. The latter category fills an obvious need. Movies and regular forms of entertainment are to be found only in the large cities, which soldiers reach only on occasion. Relaxation — which men crave so badly after the strain of battle or training — is therefore sought in reading right where they happen to be, since the libraries are brought along with other supplies. At such times many men plunge into books like swimmers into water on a hot day. They want — and get — the light stuff: detective and mystery stories, short stories, recent best sellers and strange as it may seem, even tales of war. Humor is of course, extremely popular.

At the same time it would perhaps surprise an observer who did not know the anti-fascist volunteers intimately to see how warmly they regard the established English classics, past and present. The plays of Shakespeare and Shaw, Bacon's essays, Gulliver's Travels, Robinson Crusoe and on to John Galsworthy and Ernest Hemingway — these are a few of the representative titles frequently requested. They are read with care and enjoyment not because of their hallowed reputations, for these fighting men can

hardly be considered bookish. If a book looks good they take it. The compulsory reading of bourgeois education is as unheard-of as fascist book-destruction.

But it is natural that the literature read most attentively should be on political subjects. Anti-fascists are thoroughly familiar with the basic truth of things as they are in the world today and are keen to know the course of events. All news of the day is, of course, most eagerly devoured. But things to keep them in touch with the shifting background, the fundamentals behind the happenings, — such books are seized upon and the men possessing them besieged until finished. The most recent instance of this sort is "When Japan Goes To War", by O. Tanin and E. Yohan.

Several copies of this book are in Spain, but not nearly enough to fill the bill. The same thing was true of Harry Gannes' "Spain in Revolt" and Louis Fischer's pamphlet "Spain in Arms". The how and why is what they seek, these readers-in-arms.

Political history and general theory are unceasing subjects of reading and discussion, so far as many individuals are concerned. Theory and practice must be combined at all times, of course, but where are men doing it better than in Spain today? If it is true that some of the greatest leaders of the masses could not find the opportunity to study until thrown into jail, we may look forward to the development of many a potential leader, putting the enforced idleness of certain periods during war to similar use.

M. M.

A Labor Impostor Passes

The fight which is being made for the unity of working-class forces of Britain has been profoundly affected by the past actions of the one-time Labour leaders such as MacDonald, Snowden and Thomas. Snowden died last May, unmourned by a y but those members of the owning classes whose servant he had been.

And now the leader of the trio has died and it is interesting in the light of present-day events, when unity is so essential to the continued existence of freedom and liberty in Britain and through the world, to trace the pattern of events which led to the present position in world events, for it is certain that British policy has had a profound effect on the course of world events, and Ramsay MacDonald was directly responsible for the eclipse of the Labour Party in the years following the second Labour Government. His

guiding star in all his actions from the war years onwards was his hatred of Marxism and Bolshevism. When he died, the Nazi paper "Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" appraised him thus:

"As a Socialist he was an outspoken opponent of Marxism".

MOVED BY HATRED

The essence of his being is shown by the manner of his acting when the Zinoviev forgery came to his hands. So blinded by his hatred was he that he was prepared to lose the impending General Election of 1924, in order that he might send a ferocious note to the Soviet Government demanding an explanation.

The "letter", was palpably a forgery, and the cynical attitude of the Tories to the whole business is typified by the comments of Major-General Sir Wyndham Childs, one time Chief of the London Metropolitan Police, leader of the infamous Arcos raid, and no lover of the Communists, as his utterances show. "I regarded the Communists as social pariahs and a body of persons against whom every political party should wage ceaseless war." This is the man, who when writing on the "letter", wrote the following. "There were no new ideas and no new directions (in the "letter"), but it chanced to appear at a psychological moment and its importance was exaggerated out of all proportion in order to suit the exigencies of a political situation caused by the forthcoming Election.

LETTER A FAKE

"I first became aware of the despatch of Mr. MacDonald's note by reading the daily papers. It was then that I realised the importance which was being attached to the Zinoviev letter from a political point of view. Very few people are aware that there never was any Zinoviev letter at all. The document in the possession of His Majesty's Government purported to be nothing more than the English translation of an alleged copy in Russian of an alleged original.

"Had Mr. Ramsay MacDonald been more conversant with the machinery of the organisation which he controlled in addition to administering the office of Prime Minister, I think he would have sought other opinions before despatching his note. I feel that his

ASTURIAS

High in your mountain fastness still you fight,
Lacking in arms out-numbered by the foe.
Rather than bondage, to die for what is right
And with your ebbing strength deal blow for blow.

Proudly you give your all in freedom's cause,
A bright example to oppressed mankind,
Cut off from aid, yet fighting without pause,
Steel horde ahead, wild barren rock behind.

From belching cannon's mouth and from the skies,
The steely death rains on you day and night,
Traitorous diplomats ignore your children's cries,
Deaf to your agony, blind to your plight.

Yet when the history of this war is writ
And all this bloody massacre exposed,
We your brothers will then in judgment sit
And deal out justice to our mutual foes.

Then you shall be avenged, Asturias,
For every drop of blood you gladly gave,
To make our fight for Liberty victorious
From fascism and war the world to save.

H. G. SUTCLIFFE



RAMSAY MACDONALD in Court Dress.

department did him a disservice in permitting him (or possibly inducing him—I do not know which) to send the note without having the original letter in his possession. There was no more evidence that the Zinoviev "letter" emanated from the I. K. K. I. than that the publications of the C. P. G. B. came from the same source. I am not, of course, speaking of evidence in the "police-court" meaning of the word; if I were, it would have to be admitted at once that there was no evidence whatever given in the House of Commons as to the existence of the Zinoviev "letter" or its receipt in this country.

NOT SO DUMB

"On November 21st Sir Austen Chamberlain directed a Note to the Soviet Government in which he stated that 'I have the honour to inform you that after due deliberation His Majesty's Government find themselves unable to

recommend the treaties in question to the consideration of Parliament, or to submit them to the King for His Majesty's ratification.' The Note further went on to quote an extract from Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's Note, and which concluded by saying that the "Soviet Government would do well to weigh carefully the consequences of ignoring this pronouncement."

Childs' final comments on the matter are "If Mr. Zinoviev did actually despatch this letter to the Communist Party of Great Britain, he must surely have taken temporary leave of his sense. What was the situation? A Labour Government in power, and a treaty with Soviet Russia was about to come before the House of Commons for its consideration, so I can only conclude by giving it as my opinion that if Mr. Zinoviev did send it he was, in colloquial language, a blithering idiot."

This effusion of Childs' shows all the pride in his class that one would expect for having pulled off a slick trick on the electorate. Whether MacDonald was as dumb as he seemed, is, in view of what happened later, open to some doubt. But this incident shows the type of man he was and the kind of influence he had on the Labour Party in the post-war years. He has gone, but there are still those who oppose working-class unity in Britain. The MacDonald tradition will not die an easy death. But die it will. Die it must.

O. C. G.



Look! Warships!
Yeah! That's fine. We're gettin
back to civilization.

MEDICAL STUDENT ESCAPES TO OUR LINES AND REPORTS OF TERROR IN SARAGOSSA

According to a report from the Eastern front, it seems that in one of our sectors at the Ebro River a soldier jumped out of the enemy lines, signalling not to be fired upon. He made a wild sprint for our parapets, and though the fascist sentries fired furiously, he was lucky enough to reach our trenches unhurt.

At headquarters he said he was a medical student and felt overjoyed at having escaped from the fascist yoke. His testimony was full of interesting facts, for he had been detained from August 23 to September 1, last year, in the Information Service of the Falangists, in Saragossa, and from then until August 19 this year in the provincial jail.

The true assassins of the Saragossa proletariat are General Urrutia, Lieutenant-Colonel Dario Gazapo, and Police Commissioner Cogerti, who is also the administrator of Saragossa. Other agents who have punished the workers and leftists are Mulo, the Falangist chief; Villuenda, the local leader; the Falangist police, Lamarca, Toro, Pinilla, Navarro, Herro, Trébol, and López del Olmo, who is also the station agent.

CITES CRUELITIES

There are also many elements of the worst type in the various squads of the "Cuerpos de Seguridad", "Asalto", and "Guardia Civil", those who are at the head of the assassins, distinguishing themselves by their cruelty and callousness against the workers. Outstanding among them is a lieutenant of the "Guardia Civil", whose name the medical student

could not remember, but who is in charge of the Mareria district of the Aragon capital. As examples of utter cruelty he cited the assassination of don Antonio Pla, vice-president of the provincial



THE "NATIONAL" ARMY

committee of Saragossa, whose eyes were gouged out in the presence of the student, and the case of López Conde, member of the municipal council of the city, who was horse-whipped to death. The same atrocity was inflicted on Manuel Marin Sanchez, the municipal librarian. The provincial inspector of Sanitation, Señor Albifana, was killed shortly before the same fate was met by his son, despite the latter's rank of lieutenant. Comrade Gallo, of the J. S. U., was shot, but when his family came to the morgue to claim the body they found it with the throat cut also. When the mother of Gallo protested at this added barbarity, some Falangists present in the morgue pushed her out with shouts and jeers.

The student said he had seen an endless number of civilians ta-

ken from the Saragossa jail and shot. Among them were don Francisco Araoda, retired professor of the faculty of sciences; the Muniesa brothers, professors of the faculty of medicine; the civil governor, don Angel Varea Coronel, and many others.

He related also how the prisoners were trained by the prison officials. One of these officials, Julio Diez, boasted proudly of his ruthlessness and demonstrated it by killing an old man, shortly before he left the prison. Some of the champions of cruelty exercised themselves by putting the whip to the inmates.

Others who were outstanding in their cruel excesses include a Captain of the Information Center of the Falange; one who bragged of having shot "thousands"; and one called Marques, who did not conceal the fact that he had shot the prisoners at Belchite. Quite famous also were two men who are known in Saragossa as the brothers "Al Capone", a nickname given to them because in every quarrel or brawl they immediately resorted to pistols. At present they are members of the body-guard used by the general of the Fifth Division.

All those known to have been members of revolutionary organizations in Saragossa must be denounced as a matter of law, afterward to be shot.

When a prisoner is condemned to work under the custody of the "Guardia Civil", it is considered a dreadful fate. The guards treat them in a terrible manner and many workers are in the hospital as a result of the blows and beatings they have received.

TRIBUTE PAID TO FOUNDER OF SPAIN'S SOCIALIST PARTY

The Delegation of the Committee for Unification of the Socialist and Communist Parties issued the following statement on the twelfth anniversary of the death of Pablo Iglesias:

"To be faithful to the doctrines of Pablo Iglesias, we must on this day make a solemn promise, take a revolutionary oath, to fight more closely every day for the triumph of the workers and of the masses. For Socialists and Communists particularly, the me-



PABLO IGLESIAS

mory of this teacher should be an imperative duty to work and fight united until we have welded ourselves into one Party, the Single Party of the Proletariat.

"Pablo Iglesias, tireless fighter throughout his life for the rights of the workers against the exploiters, against all the enemies of the proletariat and the people, is an example for all the Spanish workers and anti-fascists during these moments in which the gravity of the situation forces us to fight closer together every day in order to win the war, to fight to the finish, to crush Franco, and to hurl the invaders out of our country."

APOLOGY!

A Horn & Hardart picket tells about the cop in uniform who apologized for going into the store, explaining that it has the only available washroom in the neighborhood



OUR CAVALRY

The Myth of a Dictator: How it was Invented

The well-known German author in exile, Conrad Heiden, has published a book entitled "Hitler: The Life of a Dictator." In it he explains how and by whom the myth of a "führer" came to be created; how the National-Socialist Party was started, climbed to power and enslaved all Germany. The fifth chapter of the book is called "Dietrich Eckart Looks For a Dictator" and shows that the idea of a "führer" arose from the topsy-turvy notions of a bad poet, a drunkard unbalanced by the war. Here are some excerpts from this chapter:

"Whoever had the luck of entering the Ortiga Tavern, in the Bohemian district of Schwabrig, in Munich, on a certain summer's night in 1919, would have been able to sit at a table together with the regular habitués of the café, and thus witness the invention of Hitler. Or perhaps it would be more accurate to say the invention of the legend of Hitler.

"In this tavern the poet, Dietrich Eckart, was holding forth. He was a man of medium height, but corpulent, with an impressive bald head and very small eyes; and quite plainly a man who loved wine to excess. He had a habit of using curse words which in no other language sounds quite so well as in the Bavarian dialect.

"Before the war this Dietrich Eckart had been the editor of a weekly in Berlin which was a firm supporter of the Kaiser. But like

enjoyed would seem to be the destiny of the Nazis in Germany.

"Among other works he made an adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's "Peer Gynt". It was notable for the extreme liberties it took with



HITLER

Ibsen's meaning. But Eckart asserted, in his incomparable manner, that he was concerned only with the spirit, not the form, of the original.

"This man, more of an artist in living than in writing, had become attracted to politics since the war, as had many others of the literati. He began calling for the creation of a party "to combat the Jews and Bolsheviks." To the motley Bohemian crew that frequented the Ortiga Tavern he de-claimed, "It must be a party of the German bourgeoisie. Why? Because a worker is also bourgeois when he is a German. Are we going to regard the middle class and the farmers as either capitalists or tramps? Don't they have to work for what they have? They should be emulated. But the proud financiers have to be destroyed. We must return to simplicities."

Then he proceeded to explain his plans for the organization of the new party: "At its head," he said, "there must be a strong man, capable of making himself heard like the sound of a machine-gun...

The Spanish Republican Theatre in the War

The theatre company directed by Maria Teresa León, well-known playwright and producer, has given performances to the soldiers defending the fronts in the Escorial sector near Madrid.

Speaking after the first performance Maria Teresa said

"This is a new departure for our company. It is our duty to let the soldiers know that we remember them. At the same time we accustom those who have never seen plays to see them and those who have hitherto only seen bad works to see good ones.

"One fine, but cold morning we arrived at the front in order to give a little joy and merriment to men who, before the war, had only known rough work in the fields and who had no time for amusement, men who now, in the struggle for freedom, are living face to face with death. Our actors are not like the wandering actors who formerly went from village to village inspired rather by hunger than by the desire to act.

"We come to visit our soldiers in a happy frame of mind. From the road the distant enemy lines are visible. Far away can be heard the thud of bursting shells: white smoke can be seen rising from a clump of trees on the horizon. The undulating landscape, with its green hills, does not in the least betray the proximity of war.

"During a performance of "Mariana Pineda" two soldiers were standing by my side. One of them said to the other: "All my life I have done nothing but dig and now I am here like a lord." This frank expression of satisfaction goes a long way to explain what our struggle means. The peasant who has now become a soldier

finds it difficult, yet pleasing to find he is one of the many who are now no longer downtrodden and despised, but who, on the contrary, are given the opportunities which once were only the lot of the few."

The audience, most of whom are men, follow the play with the utmost attention. Afterwards they mix with the actors and chat with them. In former times the actors were something apart from the audience, as separated as were the villages from the cities. Everything was out of the reach of the peasants — justice, culture, art... Now all is within their grasp.

They can learn to read and write, they can see the theatre, they can talk with the actors, they themselves can become actors. The Republic has introduced them to a world of feeling. And now when they are fighting and cannot go to the theatre, the theatre comes to them. How things have changed! The Republican soldiers are happy and cannot lose, for every day brings with it a new object in life. Every one of them now has the strength which a hundred men formerly had, in the days when life had no prospects and when every atom of stimulus was crushed in them even before they left their mother's womb.

KULTURI

BERLIN. — Nazi police seized and destroyed all foreign newspapers containing the pastoral letter issued by the German Episcopal Church. Among these forbidden papers were all the English dailies and several French.



a true Bavarian and natural Bohemian he did not last very long in the capital. He then devoted himself to the theater and wrote a series of dramas. The two or three plays which were produced had very little success. And to compose dramas which are not produced, or if produced, are not

for the rabble must be forced to shiver in its boots.

"This man should not be a politician or an official. The public no longer feels any respect for officials. It is best that such a man be a worker who could say things without restraint, one who is not obligated to anyone... My God!" he shouted, "If only Noske had not been such a so-and-so!" (Here came one of his characteristic vulgar expressions).

Then he continued with his specifications for leadership. "He does not need much brains. The trade of politician is the most stupid in the world, and every fishwife

knows it. I prefer a conceited monkey, capable of giving the Reds a loud answer and who will not flee before the raised hoofs of a horse. I prefer him to a dozen learned professors."

And as the climax of this lecture on political science, Eckart said, "He must be unmarried. In this way we can attract the women to us."

This is the picture of Hitler, and many people still remember that the prophetic image was painted in a fly-by-night tavern in Schwabrig. Dietrich Eckart is the spiritual author of the myth of a "führer."

DOCTOR BARSKY RETURNS TO SPAIN

After a four-month speaking tour of the United States, in which he spoke to enthusiastic audiences from Maine to California, Major Edward Barsky of New York has returned to Spain to resume his work with the American Hospitals in Spain. Major Barsky, who headed the first American Medical Unit to arrive in Spain early last February, toured the States under the auspices of the Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy.

"There is a definite increase and crystallization of sympathy for Spain in the United States", said Doctor Barsky on his return to the American Base Hospital, "and the Medical Bureau has now drawn more and more people to its side in the gathering of medical aid for Spain." At meetings in all the major cities of the United States, Doctor Barsky was received by large audiences and definite financial returns. A high point in the Doctor's trip was the formation of a West Coast Medical Unit for Spain, complete with doctors, nurses, technicians, and equipment under the leadership of Doctor Leo Eloesser, professor of surgery at Stanford University Medical School. This unit, now in Spain, increased tremendously the interest and activity for the Loyalists on the entire West Coast and in meetings in Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and Berkeley. People from all classes were brought together and responded to Doctor Barsky's pleas for aid.

At a meeting in the University of California, which is represented in Spain by a large group of students now in the 15th Brigade under the leadership of Robert H. Merriman, one time professor at the U. of C., Major Barsky addressed a large audience of professors, their wives, and students of the school. "This was a high

spot on my tour", stated the doctor. "The response was excellent. The interest equalled, if not in physical size, at least in enthusiasm, my meeting in Madison Square Garden, New York."

In Chicago and its suburbs, in Rockford, Illinois (the scene of a tremendous movement for the C. I. O.); in Boston, before Harvard students at a meeting in



DOCTOR BARSKY

Woods Hole, Mass., where, with Dr. Walter B. Cannon of Harvard Medical School, Major Barsky addressed representatives from 17 universities working at the Marine Biological Laboratories. He also spoke before a group of doctors at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in session at the University of Minnesota. In all these and other meetings for medical aid to Spain, money was raised and solidarity was expressed.

At a meeting of the staff, Doctor Barsky was welcomed back to Spain and to the scene of the first American Base Hospital. At this reunion the Doctor addressed the staff and congratulated Major Doctor Busch on the splendid advances made in his absence. He expressed the hope for even further strides in hospitalization in the future. Dr. Leo Eloesser was present at the gathering and spoke of some first impressions of Spain. The eminent California surgeon told of the high type of surgical work he witnessed in Spanish hospitals. He told those present (in perfect Spanish) of his hopes for an even greater unity with our Spanish comrades.

M. H.

A Watch Makes the Rounds

A well-known comrade and old-timer of the Fifteenth Brigade came out to Spain with a watch. He obtained this watch by means of a swap, which he arranged in London on his way out. On the back of it he inscribed a brief message in Irish Gaelic.

He was wounded in the February actions at Jarama. While he was at the dressing station, waiting with the blood running down his arm, he supposed that the watch would be of no further use to him. He gave it to a comrade who asked to have it rather than see it thrown away, and after that he thought no more about it.

Some months afterwards an American came up to him and said, "You're an Irishman, perhaps you can tell me what this message means on the back of my watch."

It was his own. The American passed it over without demur. He had taken it, he said, from the wrist of a French comrade, as it seemed a pity to let it be buried with him.

The watch was going, and still goes on the wrist of the man who brought it to Spain. By what devious process of exchange it came into the hands of a Frenchman will probably never known.

1000 Years on Strike!

Thirty million working days were lost this year by strikes in 21 countries throughout the world. According to the annual bulletin of the International Labor Office at Geneva, this is equivalent to one worker's non-productivity for a period of one thousand years.

Japanese Bombard Catholic Mission

Japanese bombing squadrons, in a raid over the town of Huang-Teh, dropped several heavy charges on the Catholic Mission there. According to reports, the mission had clearly identified itself by ground markings. Casualties and material damages reach considerable figures.

Spanish Painter Goes to The United States

Pablo Picasso, the celebrated Spanish painter, will represent his country at the International Congress of Artists meeting in New York this month. Picasso had previously refused many invitations to go to America, and accepts this time to show his loyal support of the Government.

Not Even Fascist Bombers Could Ruffle his Dignity

Where was Wattis when the bombers came over? Wattis was shaving; or if you can think of something else not unconnected with a man's personal preparations for the day, perhaps you're right.

Wattis was a Brigade figure. He was indeed. Any two other Brigade figures would have fitted inside Wattis' belt together. He was a Great Guy. It was Wattis who looked after the Brigade's food supply up to the time when he was wounded while we were taking Bekhlite.

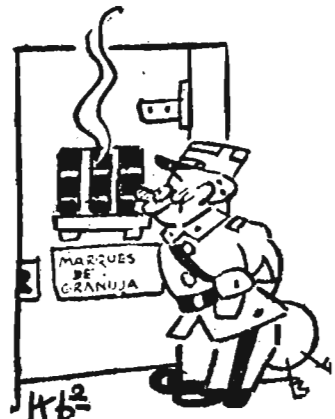
When the bombers came over one morning during the Brunete offensive, Wattis was shaving behind a tree. This Brigade figure, half uncamouflaged, offered a wide, pink target to the bombers; but Wattis went on shaving.

"Get under cover, for God's sake!" shouted someone, running past. "They're coming over!"

"Cover be damned," said Wattis. "Do you think I am going to pull up my shirt for those blighters?"

And if that wasn't what he called them, it began with the same letter.

HIS MASTER'S APPETITE



U. S. Ambassador to Germany Resigns

Professor William E. Dodd, American Ambassador to Germany, has resigned his post. Mister Dodd is noted for his progressive tendencies. He and his son have spoken frequently in the United States before anti-fascist audiences.

CATALONIA TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN THE WAR

The great importance assumed in Catalonia by the industry of the textile manufacturing syndicates and their development in the present economic and social situation, have prompted us to obtain an account of their various problems. With this purpose the members of the Secretariat of the regional committee of the manufacturing, textile and related industries of Catalonia have given us the following information:

At the outset of the uprising, when we had taken charge of the factories, we found that many individuals had come to be small capitalists by buying a few looms. There were others who had formed companies by contributing capital and buying twenty or thirty looms together, but had not

port. The industry used 400,000 bales of cotton, most of it coming from America and some from India and Egypt. But when the uprising began the supply of prime materials was rapidly exhausted. Capitalism had declined to pay the debts it owed to the American exporters, and we were forced to deal with a very limited amount of raw material. This we attacked, paying what was due. Through the efforts of a certain Bank we were able to settle all debts by the end of the year. This was eloquent proof of our attitude. But there still remained the painful problem of the lack of raw materials. In seeking a solution of this problem a committee went to the Government in January 1937. We calculated the value of foreign exports at some 300,000,000 pesetas and proposed a formula to the Government. This consisted of exporting manufactured goods and converting it, through commission agents, into bales of cotton which we would receive by land; for we imposed the condition that the material would be brought to the frontier. We would thus secure the advantage of a discount from the French railways and we also planned to request the same from the Spanish rail. But difficulties arose and this idea never materialized.

Our structure consists of industrial syndicates, grouped according to manufacturing zones, which number seventeen. Each has its own committee and together these delegates constitute the Regional Committee.

THE WOMEN of Spain are daily becoming more involved in their country's war industries.

developed very successfully; they had been forced to become dependents of the large enterprises. The big firms were the ones which received the important orders. When the order was very large and greater productive capacity was needed, they resorted to the small companies to serve them and complete the work. In the manufacturing and textile industry there were many such cases of houses who had no life of their own, who merely worked for others.

When the large firms were collectivized those of the greatest potential output refused to give work to the smaller firms, but this contradictory situation was abolished by the "Decree on Collectivization", which required the large to help the small.

Eighty percent of the regional production had been for the home trade and the remainder for ex-



ANOTHER photo of the delegation. Ellen Wilkinson M. P., is on General Miaja's left. Major ATTLEE is on the extreme right.

BRITISH LABOUR DELEGATION VISITS SPAIN

(Continued from page 1.)

mocracy. Two rifle salutes were fired into the air by squads of picked British and Spanish soldiers during the silence.

"Help us to get arms", was the plea of the British Volunteers in the battalion. "We'll do our part here, fighting not only for the freedom of the Spanish people, but for the very existence of the Labour Movement threatened by Fascism in Britain and the entire world. You must carry on the fight back home."

General Walter voiced the determination of the International Volunteers and the Spanish people to prevent Spain "from becoming a European Abyssinia".

MEETING TO AID SPAIN

After visiting the barracks of the British Volunteers the delegation had dinner at the Brigade Headquarters before continuing on their journey to Valencia. Prior to their departure the delegation stood at attention during the playing of the Spanish Republican anthem, then stood at salute while singing the "International" in company with the soldiers.

"Good courage and good fortune", cried Miss Wilkinson in parting.

Almost immediately after his return to Britain, Major Attlee will be the principal speaker at a great Labour Rally at the Albert Hall in London. This meeting is the climax to a great Aid-Spain Campaign which the Labour Party

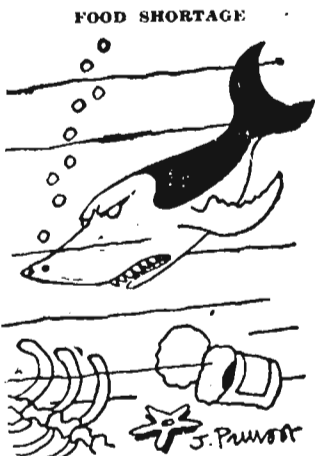
has been conducting over the last few weeks. The Campaign has as its immediate objective the collection of food and milk for the Spanish people, and the political objective of rousing public opinion in order to force the British Government to drop its policy of "non-intervention".

With regard to the collection of food and milk, the support given by the working-class parties, and by the Co-operative movement especially, is such that the success is assured. In the case of the campaign to rouse popular opinion against the policy of the British Government, there is as yet no evidence that this is going with a real swing.

Major Attlee will return at the climax of this campaign—a campaign which has not yet attained the necessary results. He will be fresh with memories of his visit here, memories of a people who will fight to the bitter end, memories of International Volunteers including his own countrymen who are fighting for the Liberty of Spain and the Peace of the World.

What he must do is clear to us and to himself. He must turn this meeting from being the climax of one campaign into the first step of an even greater one—a campaign which will really bring results, a campaign of direct action in favour of the Spanish Republic.

A. D.



"What's the matter with these pirate submarines? It's time they sank some more refugees."



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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Madrid, December 20 - 1937

OUR PEOPLE'S ARMY PREPARED TO MEET FRANCO'S FOREIGN FASCIST TROOPS

The following is an official statement on the present military situation in face of the impending fascist attacks made by the Central Estado Mayor of the Ministry of National Defense of the Spanish Republican Army to the Spanish people just before the Teruel offensive.

On the 20th of October Gijón was evacuated. Thus ended the fighting in the ancient principedom of Asturias. The rebels, who were in Villaviciosa, were delayed forty-eight hours in occupying the city, where they met no resistance. The Franco offensive has not yet started against the Government's lines in the East, the South or the Center. The loss of the North was due, as no one can deny to the policy of "non-intervention" and to geographical destiny.

The fascists, in their desire to increase their territorial, moral and industrial advantages so as to gain favor with the democratic chancellories, concentrated on the North. From April to October they covered themselves with the blood of the Basques, the Asturians and the people of Santander.

For eight months, except for an episode like that at Albarracín, the defense has been maintained in Andalucía, in La Mancha, in Extremadura, in the Center and in Aragón. The enemy put all effort into the occupation of the northern coast. Have they done well? In a military sense, no. The martyrdom of the North gave the Republic an intermission, an opportunity which has served to organize its army and regulate its rear.

Today the rear obeys the Government fully and the army has reached authentic efficiency.

We write this commentary at the end of November. We compare the existing situation with the state of affairs a year ago, and it permits us to be optimistic.

In November, 1936 the Govern-



THE NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY, no longer the weaponless and poorly clothed militiamen of the early days of the war. Now they are part of a highly trained and technical Republican Army.

ment was moved to Valencia, as a first step toward Barcelona. Madrid was in the war zone and seemed to lack the elements for defense. An open city, it was attacked from the south and from the east, and was in grave peril. To its outskirts had fallen back the remnants of the militia columns which since September had been driven back from Talavera to Getafe, from Peguerinos to Boadilla. Their bravery and personal resourcefulness were no match against material superiority.

A chaotic militia, arranged on lines of political or trade union loyalty, devoid of leadership or seasoning, lacking even cartridges — such an army could not resist the shock troops of Franco, the Moors and Foreign Legionnaires, supported by Italian and German aviation and large caliber artillery, with armored cars, tanks and automatic arms.

The truth is that it cannot be understood how the enemy had

been held off for two and a half months. Madrid seemed doomed on the night General Miaja opened the sealed envelope left behind by the man who was then Prime Minister. The next morning the Committee of Defense held its first meeting and drew up an affidavit. This was later made public and it reveals that all Madrid had for its defense consisted of six machine guns in good use, three hours' of ammunition, one hundred cases of Mauser cartridges, and the remainder of six militia columns which, since Talavera, had known nothing but retreat and defeat.

Never, it can now be said, were the rebels more certain of victory. Why did they not enter Madrid? How did they fail to take advantage of those days to strike the fatal blow to the Republic? Some day it will be known. One thing is certain; the fascists lacked the daring that Madrid possessed. The defenders knew how to be heroes, and raised a war-cry, a watch-

word, which became a slogan that was carried out to the letter. "No Pasaran!"

Bismarck speaks frequently of the imponderable elements which decide battles. Clausewitz, in his classical book on war, points out that between theory and execution comes the friction of reality. The imponderable elements have worked in our favor for a year. The friction with reality operates on the side of legitimate causes.

The experiences of yesterday should be the basis of the expectations of tomorrow. Today we have become a strategic power, economically and politically, and entirely homogeneous. We are familiar with offensives; we know not only how to resist them, but also how to make them. Naturally, we cannot discuss the plans of the Army. Facts will speak for themselves at an opportune time.

Concerning the designs of the enemy, the reports are numerous and contradictory. Will they attack through Huesca toward Lerida? Through Teruel toward Castellón? Through Sigüenza toward Guadalajara? Through Arganda toward Alcalá de Henares? Toward Pozoblanco? Toward Jaén? Toward Almería?

Will they combine two attacks at once? Will they undertake a grand series of operations, like the one they followed in the North? Will they make a series of feints to confuse us? We know that a large number of their effectives of the Northern front were immediately brought to the Eastern and Center fronts. We know also that Italian, German and Moroccan contingents are still arriving in Spain, with large quantities of war material. We know that the policy of "non-intervention" continues to cause us enormous injury.

But we also know that we have finally built an Army.

SALUD to all, from the XVth BRIGADE

Major MERRIMAN, Chief of Staff



DORAN, Brigade Political Commissar



Capt. DUNBAR, Chief of Operations



After a year of hard-fought and gloriously-won battles on the fronts of Jarama, Brunete and Aragon, the Fifteenth International Brigade spends Christmas in the front-line trenches.

Americans, British, Canadians, Irish — and their Spanish comrades — man their trenches this Christmas-tide playing their part in the war for the freedom of the people of Spain and of the whole human race.

From the front-line they send greetings to their comrades at

Lt. Col. COPIC,
Commanding the
XVth Brigade

home—their comrades through whose solidarity victory over Fascism will be achieved and a new era of peace and goodwill ensured.

No peace until victory; no goodwill until the peoples are freed; that is our Christmas Message, our New Year's resolve.



From the BRITISH BATTALION

The men of the British Battalion, many spending their second successive Christmas at the front, send revolutionary greetings to the British working-class and to all the progressive parties who support them in their struggle in arms against fascism.

We hail the national re-awakening which is finding expression in the great Labour campaign for the people of Spain. We urge on all democrats, and in particular on the British working-class to give that campaign their fullest support. Such united action in conjunction with the valour of the Spanish Republican Army—in whose ranks we are proud to serve—will hasten the victory for which so many British and other comrades have given their lives.

May the coming New Year be one of world-wide solidarity in the struggle against Fascism so that next Christmas shall find the people of Spain enjoying the era of peace and freedom for which they are making such great sacrifices.

From the LINCOLN-WASHINGTON BATTALION

The volunteers of the Lincoln Washington Battalion, composed of men from every State of the Union, Cuba and South America, send the Season's Greetings and their best wishes to their families, friends, trade unions and organizations, as well as the entire people of the United States.

Resisting with their armed might the combined onslaught of Franco and the Italian and Nazi invaders they are fighting in the best American traditions to maintain democracy and save Spain from the barbaric aggression of international fascism.

Thanking all their friends and well-wishers for their unstinted aid, support and solidarity, they pledge to fight to their last drop of blood against barbaric fascism—the arch enemy of civilization and humanity.

Proud of their glorious tradition forged on the battlefields of Jarama, Brunete and Aragon they intend to carry on the fight to a victorious conclusion so that next Christmas may find Spain a land of freedom, peace and good will towards men.

From the MACKENZIE-PAPINEAU BATTALION

The Canadian volunteers in Spain, one thousand strong, wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the Canadian people back home.

The Canadian Mackenzie-Papineau-Battalion, together with American and British in the XV (Anglo-American) Brigade is presenting an invincible front to oppose the traitor Franco and Mussolini's and Hitler's fascist invading troops.

Strong and united with the Canadian people in their love for peace, freedom and democracy the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion forms the spearhead of the Canadian people in the fight against international fascism in Spain.

Fascism is a menace not only to Spain, but it is a deadly enemy of anything that represents humanity, progress and enlightenment—it is out to destroy civilization and plunge the world into chaos and mass slaughter. In fighting for a free, democratic, victorious Spain the Canadian volunteers are defending with their lives the happiness and future of their family, friends and the people of Canada as well.

Forward to victory! This Christmas finds us in the trenches, but we are confident that with the continued aid and support of the Canadian people we will celebrate next Christmas at home rejoicing with our people in the victory of a free and democratic Spain.



THE SEASON'S COMPLIMENTS

From the
SPANISH COMRADES
in the XVth. Brigade

Los camaradas españoles de la XV Brigada Internacional se unen a sus hermanos internacionales enviando un ferviente saludo a los pueblos democráticos del mundo.

Estamos seguros de que con vuestra ayuda en los campos de batalla aquí en España, y con vuestra solidaridad en vuestros propios países, el nuevo año será un año de victoria, y en las próximas Navidades España se encontrará libertada de la tiranía fascista.

From Frank Ryan on behalf of the
IRISH COMRADES:
in the XVth. Brigade

Nodlaig fé shéan do Ghaedheala, agus Aith-Bhliain fé shonasa agus fé shiocháin!

Sin guidhe na n-Eireannach atá ag cailtheamh na Nodlag annso, don tarna uair, i láthair an chatha, ag troid i gcoinnibh na tíorántachta agus ar son síochána.

Thar a gcionn uile bheirim buidheachas do gach n-aon agaibh atá ag cabhrú linn. Ach an chabhair sin a neartú agus a leathnú bainimid an buadh amach, agus gealfaidh Aith-Bhliain na Saoirse linn an Spáinn, agus ar fuaid an domhain.



Prolinnias O Riain.

*The man on guard
Thinks "Back at home they'll drink my health this year,
And someone will be asked to say a word
About the Christmas I'll be having here.
Then, I suppose, they'll sober down a minute.
Well, and what's in it?
I don't miss coloured lights and Christmas trees
So long as I'm where company is good;
To be among a bunch of men like these
Makes up for what you miss in drink and food."
The soldier winks at half a moon. His feet
Shuffle an outline to the tune he's humming;
He thinks "The day we get those fascists beat,
There's going to be a merry Christmas coming."*

On WHOSE SIDE is the GOODWILL?

The spirit of Christmas festival is far older than the calendar of the Christian church. This is the time when everybody feels the temptation to gaiety, whether or not it gets him. This is the time when troubles are forgotten — the sort of troubles it is possible to forget.

In a country at war, all troubles are sunk into one. The Spanish people have mobilised their time and powers to win the Civil War. They neither can nor will forget it.

When Christmas of 1936 came round, a trained and well-equipped fascist army stood at the gates of Madrid, halted almost by enthusiasm alone. Now, a year later, we have gained their weapon of efficiency, but they have not gained our weapon of morale. We are fighting dispirited men.

What sort of a Christmas will the fascist soldier get? Enough drink, perhaps, to soften the uncomfortable realities out of his head for a night and make it sore the next morning. Real pleasure has no chapter in the fascist book. That story is being written now in Spain and China, not in terms of goodwill. The unhappy conscript will get nothing more than a moment of forgetfulness.

"On earth, peace and goodwill towards men." So the Christian peoples will sing in their churches. But there will be an uncomfortable feeling that the spirit of goodwill is not so universal today as it might be. Who is destroying the Christmas spirit?

Hungry and oppressed families in all countries of the world but one will answer that together, and the sound will be loud enough to break through the concert of Christmas hymns. The beast is abroad. Already he has three wars to his credit, each bigger than the last. Some, like the simpleton who stared at a hippopotamus and remarked "There isn't such an animal", still refuse to believe their eyes. Only the courage and resolution of the anti-fascist armies saves them from being swallowed by the beast that is not there.

We who spend Christmas of 1937 in Spain may miss some of the luxuries our friends will have at home, but we shall share more than family sentiments. We share with the people of Spain a common purpose and a spirit warmer than burning logs. It may prove that we are taking part in one of the most significant and momentous celebrations in the world's history.



East and West, men of goodwill have answered the call to arms against international fascism. Upon their victory will rest the triumph of peace on earth.



THIS FLAG WAS PRESENTED TO THE
BRITISH BATTALION OF THE FIFTEENTH
BRIGADE BY THE WORKERS OF LONDON

A review of the present world scene

The Fascist states are coming more and more into the open. Their actions brand them more and more plainly as the deadly enemies of collective security and world peace. The Berlin-Rome-Tokio triangle is continuing the policy of the strong hand and the accomplished fact, which has hitherto been so successful with the "democratic" Governments. And up to the present the latter have not made the decisive joint stand which would checkmate the "Holy Anti-Bolshevik Alliance".

The key piece in the desperate game was and is the British Government, and this Government is acting in such a way as to arouse fears that in certain circumstances the Fascist triangle might become a reactionary square.

NYON — AND AFTERWARDS

In entering the Nyon Agreement the "National" Government had taken at least half a step towards collective security. At Geneva Eden joined forces with Delbos in pledging to Spain that further resistance on Italy's part to the withdrawal of troops would be met by drastic action. Then came a change for the worse—possibly not unconnected with the results of the Bournemouth Labour Party Conference: the support for the Government's arms policy, etc. British pressure prevented France from opening the Pyrenees frontier. On the Non-Intervention Committee Britain made a move to grant belligerent rights to Franco. This was effectively checked by the firm stand of the Soviet delegate, but Franco's belligerent rights are still being wat-

ched over with loving care. On December 15th Eden stated that belligerent rights will be granted to both parties when the Non-Intervention Committee is satisfied that progress has been made in the withdrawal of volunteers. The Spanish Government's attitude to this question is well known: acceptance of withdrawal on condition that it is not unilateral withdrawal and is carried out on a proportional basis. However, in view of Franco's not unnatural reluctance to continuing the war against the Spanish people with the forces of Spanish nationality at his disposal—even should the Sultan of Morocco's subjects assume Spanish nationality in the eyes of the non-intervention gentry—this announcement, taken at its face value, opens up vast horizons of delays.

Having met with obstacles in this direction, the British Government acted on its own and proceeded to exchange agents with the traitors. Franco's official communique stated that this was much more important than the recognition of belligerent rights since it implied "the recognition of sovereignty".

On November 9th, just after Italy's entry into the Anti-Comintern Pact, the British Prime Minister made his Guildhall speech in which he made gratuitous overtures to the "two great powers now so closely associated in what is known as the Berlin-Rome axis" and expressed his Government's desire for "a basis of mutual friendship and understanding".

On November 12th, the Halifax mission was announced. That visit to Germany turned on the Central European question, and Halifax was faced with two fundamental demands: a plebiscite in Austria, and autonomy for the German minority in Czecho-Slovakia.

THE "SAFETY VALVE"

The British ruling-class is pursuing the policy of the safety valve. The aim is to conciliate Germany and postpone her colonial demands by a deal in Central Europe. With this scheme Britain hopes to weaken the Berlin-Rome axis—thereby making Italy more amenable to British ideas regarding the Mediterranean. She is hoping also to use Germany's influence with Japan to arrive at a compromise in the Far East. This process is described by the "Tim-



THE CHINESE CAVALRY

es" as an effort to turn the German drive for expansion into "previously prepared channels".

In return for these concessions Hitler, of course, would coo like the dove of peace in person. The British Government would carefully conceal the debit side of the deal, and would be assisted more than a little by the attitude of those Liberal and Labour people who are in even worse case than the Bourbons, for not only have they learnt nothing but they have remembered nothing; they see a remedy for all international evils in Germany's return to the League and never stop to ask themselves on what terms or to what kind of a League, or how far Hitler's performance will be removed from Hitler's promise. The "National" Government, if it saw fit, could then go to the electorate at an early date, while the forces of progress are still disunited and unmobilised, and pose as the saviour of peace in Western Europe.

The game is a dangerous one from the British imperialist viewpoint, and there appears to be a split in the Cabinet on the line to be followed. One group is in favour of trying to break Italy away from Germany by means of bribes, and the other group favours the formation of a West European bloc of Germany, Italy, France and Britain. Hitler would be allowed a free hand in the East and, probably, at least the promise of some colonial satisfaction in a more or less distant future. In return he would give a guarantee of non-aggression in the West.

The position of France in the game is not an enviable one. She is threatened with isolation. Italy

is concentrating troops in Africa. France must face the possibility of an Italian attack in Africa, a concerted Italian and German attack on her frontiers, together with a Fascist coup fomented inside her own territory—in short the very disagreeable possibility of the birds of Non-Intervention coming home to roost.

It is early to judge the results of Delbos' European tour. While it may have eased the situation to some extent, there is no basis for undue optimism, as France's present foreign policy, notably with regard to Spain, is not calculated to inspire unlimited confidence among the small countries who want peace and fear aggression, and who, because of this policy and their very fear, are tending to be swung more and more into the orbit of Hitler Germany.

A further proof, if it were needed, that the Fascist powers are resolved on a course which requires a very light baggage of international commitments is provided by Italy's departure from the League of Nations.

THE FAR EAST

In the Far East, too, the situation is sharpening. The Brussels Conference which was summoned to find a solution and a just settlement to the Far Eastern situation, decided on November 24th that it could make no useful contribution to the realisation of its programme and should therefore adjourn indefinitely. This was a betrayal of the October 5th resolution at Geneva that aid should be given to China. As usual the



British Government had its full quota of guilt in this decision. Japan was considerably heartened and began a consistent effort to drive the European powers from Shanghai. She is demanding the right to control the International Settlement, and has seized the Chinese customs with their annual revenue of 21,000,000 pounds. Protest notes have followed, and Japan, by sinking American and British ships — "unintentionally", of course — is supplying the Governments concerned with a more direct inducement to leave Asia to the Asiatics, i. e. the Japanese.

JAPAN'S HASTE

Like Franco, Japan is in a hurry. She knows the resistance she can expect in Central China. She has had a foretaste of the tremendous economic and internal difficulties in which a prolonged struggle will involve her. "Energetic protest notes" will not make Japanese imperialism deviate from its chosen path — the formula "energetic protest = profound apologies + fresh aggression" can be continued indefinitely. On the other hand, economic sanctions administered by Washington, London and Paris in a firm united stand could do a great deal. The dockers of Southampton and Glasgow who have refused to handle Japanese goods have shown the way to all who love peace.

While the rulers are playing this infernal game the peoples are beginning to awaken to the issues at stake. Everything depends on how soon they take a decisive part.

A. M. E.

TORPEDO BOAT N.º 3

In the Naval Delegation in Madrid a banquet was held lately by the Sailor's Home in honor of Torpedo Boat Number 3, saved during the evacuation of Gijón.

The Commander of this unit of the Government fleet, Guillermo Almeiros, had been given concrete orders to sink Torpedo Boat Number 3, which was at the time thought to be irremediably lost, rather than have it fall into the hands of the invading forces.

Almeiros not only saved the ship, as he had likewise done when the cities of San Sebastian, Bilbao and Pasajes fell, but, facing the countless dangers that were in his way and flying the tri-colored Republican flag, sailed for Bordeaux with the General Staff of the Army of the North on board.

NATIONAL PEOPLE'S FRONT COMMITTEE MAKES UNITY APPEAL

On renewing its activity following the move to Barcelona, the National Committee of the People's Front has published an appeal to the militants of all parties and antifascist organisations and to the people of Spain as a whole inviting them to bring about the unity of action demanded by the Republic.

The appeal states that the Army is calmly awaiting the fascist offensive and that it is determined to maintain the independence of the Spanish people. The Committee congratulates Doctor Negrin on being satisfied with nothing but complete victory. It calls for unity in all sections of the people, the strengthening of the Army, the nationalisation of war industries and for world antifascist unity.

The appeal is signed by the Left Republican Party, the Republican Union, the Socialist Party, and the Communist Party.



THE STATUE of Don Quixote and Sancho Panza in the Plaza de España of Madrid. A short distance from the statue begins one of the city's front line trenches.

PLAZA DE ESPAÑA

If there is peace among these branches
Hanging here without a sound,
The wind brings other tales of trenches,
Tales of war on Spanish ground.

Don Quixote, why at rest?
Centuries have turned the wheel
Since your fathers died and left
Their arms of honour and of steel.

Is your heart not fierce and burning
Underneath your old cuirass
To hear your enemies returning?
Don Quixote, shall they pass?

Drop your shield and shirt of iron,
Drop your cumbersome sword and lance,
Swing out of your saddle, down
From Rosinante's crazy flanks!

Take a gun and shrapnel hat,
The day of swords is dead and gone;
Arm as a soldier, not a knight,
And ride a Spanish camion.

Men are standing, wet and cold,
Underneath the parapet;
Here's the way we change the world,
Stand with us — we'll change it yet!

Stoop, or they'll get you in the head,
Their line is fifty yards from here
And six-foot men are soonest dead.
Have caution where you have not fear!

This is no windmill in a field,
This is the fighting force of shame;
We face them, strength for strength, and yield
To death if must be — not to them!

ZOFIA SCHLEYEN

(Translated from the Polish volunteers' paper
"Dabrowszak". Adapted into English by
M. Tomalin.)

JAPANESE WORKERS AGAINST THE WAR!

TOKIO.—Signs of anti-war activity have been discovered in several munitions and arms factories. Perhaps the most significant manifestation so far occurred in one of the largest war-material plants in Yokohama. Slogans suddenly appeared on the walls calling upon all the workers there to show their solidarity with the Chinese people in arms for their independence. Eight days later an entire wing of the factory was destroyed by an explosion.

Brief strikes, sometimes lasting only a few minutes, have been held in Tokio, Osaka and other important cities. They demanded withdrawal of the entire expeditionary force from China, and some urged that the families of Japanese soldiers be given an allowance by the Government that would enable them to live with some degree of decency. The police have made hundreds of arrests.

THE SOCORRO ROJO INTERNACIONAL

The International volunteers wear buttons and insignias of many kinds. But one leads all the rest. It is not the most picturesque; it is a simple set of initials pinned upon shirt or coat or cap. It is a symbol worn proudly throughout Loyalist Spain by soldiers and civilians alike. It is the insignia of the S. R. I.—the Socorro Rojo Internacional. And the pin on the outside is usually supplemented in the pocket or wallet by a little red membership book full of dues stamps.

If the People's Front Government may be called the father of the Spain of the future, the Socorro Rojo must be called the mother. That accounts for the deep love felt for it. And that explains the profound tenderness, the unceasing effort, the utter devotion shown by the S. R. I. at every time and place that suffering and sorrow could be alleviated. In all emergencies it has come to the rescue swiftly, surely, strongly, saving life, feeding hun-

ger, giving faith in victory and a better day.

Whatever the need, it is Socorro Rojo that launches itself into the situation. Right now, for example, it is engaged ardently and arduously in a Christmas campaign to provide winter clothing for men at the front. That is the outstanding current need. And the Socorro Rojo is determined to fill it. Gathering blankets, overcoats and sweaters, urging women to knit mufflers, gloves and socks, appealing urgently for funds, the organization is successfully proceeding to make the winter of 1937-1938 more comfortable than the one before. General Miaja's donation was one of the first. He gave 5,000 pesetas.

In this drive, as in all of its efforts, the S. R. I. endeavors to supplement the work of the Government. A recent decree limits blankets to not more than one for each civilian. The rest are taken for military use. The



HOMAGE was paid to the International Brigades by the S. R. I. on September 5th at the Monumental Theater in Madrid.

plain truth is that a trench is colder than any house. By its flexibility, by its intimate approach, by its nature as a mass organization, the S. R. I. can develop the public's response to the fullest extent.

The International Brigades surely owe this organization a special debt, for it handles every scrap of mail that comes to volunteers from outside Spain. That is an example of the varied work the S. R. I. does. The IB mail is perhaps one of its comparatively minor tasks.

Much more profound and basic is the record of the things the S. R. I. has done and is doing. It has grappled with all the life-and-death concerns of a people unexpectedly plunged into the horror and chaos of war. But it has not only alleviated their misery; it has turned their faces to victory.

The full and splendid story of the S. R. I. will some day be told. Glorious chapters will be devoted to its work of evacuating women, children and aged from zones of danger and placing them in havens of greater safety; of feeding and supplying Madrid; of caring for the little sons and daughters of slain soldiers of liberty; of its education of illiterates in trenches and factories, the better to understand and fight the fascist foe; of its publishing and propaganda activities, which have produced some of the most compelling and inspiring posters and pamphlets of a land in action; of the kindly in-

fluence it has exercised over the captured fascist prisoners, especially the Italians taken at Guadalajara, who sent the S. R. I. a wreath of flowers as an offering of thanks and friendship.

Surely one of the most soul-stirring stories the world will ever know is about the activities of the S. R. I. rendering aid to the stricken folk living in the rebel zone. Going right into enemy territory, surrounded by hostile and hateful eyes, messengers of loyal mercy distribute funds to sustain life and hope. Men and women do this perilous work, using secret methods. How many have died will perhaps never be known. All details must be kept concealed until victory removes the need for secrecy.

But one great chapter of Socorro Rojo's work can now be told. For, unlike its other activities, this work is finished—finished in that it has been given up by the S. R. I. and put where it belongs—in the better-equipped hands of the Government. Not long ago those powerful hands were not so strong. Then it was that S. R. I. stepped into the breach, toiling with might and main until the Government prepared its own Army Medical Service.

In July 1936, when the traitor generals and the army rebelled, the Army Medical Corps went the same way. But the people rose in their own defense and gave terrific battle. After the first engagements, it became entirely a task of saving Madrid. Groups



GRUB for the front.

of workers and farmers rushed to positions to head off the advancing fascists. At numerous points around Madrid these badly-armed but invincible-hearted militiamen fought tigerishly to protect the city. The fighting was most violent at Carabanchel, Getafe, the Sierra de Guadarama — all within a stone's throw of the capital. Many were killed in each combat and hundreds fell wounded every day.

There was nobody else to do the work of succoring the wounded, so S. R. I. assumed the responsibility. It was as abrupt as that. The organization was not prepared for such work; it had just emerged from an underground existence since 1934. It had no stretchers, stretcher-bearers or ambulances to bring wounded men to the rear. At the



front there was not even any real first aid. How many lives were thus lost is incalculable. And in the rear there were similar difficulties — an inadequate number of hospitals insufficiently equipped for war surgery.

There was, of course, the Red Cross. It had abundant material, trained personnel, plenty of money. But it also had a leadership of the worst reactionary type, ruthless men determined to protect the interests of the rich. In Madrid, in those first days of the war, they went to some unbelievable lengths. Palaces and mansions, whose owners feared their attachment by the Government, were marked by the Red Cross as emergency hospitals. Phalangists and other traitors were put in these hospital with credentials as doctors. In this cunning way they plotted to save certain lives and property, alike condemned by the Republic.

It took many months before the People's Front Government could reorganize the Red Cross and enable it to function properly and decently.

Meanwhile the Socorro Rojo began its war sanitary work. Time was crucial, and the first necessity was to gather and train personnel. By radio, by press, by handbills and posters, the S. R. I. in a couple of days mustered over 7,000 volunteers, men and women. The offices of the organization were invaded by masses of people eager to offer their energy or blood for the wounded — old women willing to work as cleaners, men ready to go to the front as stretcher-bearers, young girls offering their blood for transfusions.

Thus supported by the people, the S. R. I. forged ahead. As soon as they appeared doctors, nurses, orderlies, stretcher-bearers, porters were assigned to duty. Suitable buildings were promptly converted into hospitals and convalescent homes. This went on throughout the country.

But among the many thousands who came, comparatively few had any training in sanitary work. It was necessary to devise short courses to give girls the indispensable knowledge to act as nurses. First-aid men and stretcherbearers were trained in the same rapid way. Out they went to the battlefields. Retiring the wounded from the lines of fire, dressing their injuries, carrying them to the rear, these workers in spite of their improvised ambulances, their limited number of stretchers, their small personal experience, succeeded in saving many lives.

First-aid posts were organized with every militia unit, and a vast campaign of health propaganda was started among the troops. Anti-fascist soldiers were taught how to conserve their health and strength for the battle. At the same time resources were being established and factories built to produce essentials. Soon the improvised ambulances were replaced by the large, modern, regular ambulances now so common — made by the S. R. I. Stretchers in abundance also quickly appeared — manufactured in the S. R. I. factories in Madrid and Valencia.

Public support mounted. The subway workers of Madrid donated a complete hospital train to the S. R. I., and in the most difficult days of the defense of the capital, the train began to function, carrying wounded to suitable places. Among the many hos-

pitals founded by the S. R. I. was the one at Benicasim, devoted to wounded International volunteers. Several hospitals in Murcia serve the same purpose.

As the militia battalions emerged from confusion and gradually became a true People's Army, the medical service kept pace and developed parallel with it. In both organizations the inevitable deficiencies in material and experience were overcome by zealous spirit.

Within six months of war, by the end of 1936, the Medical Corps had been reconstructed and properly organized. The S. R. I. thereupon wound up its own sanitary work — hitherto the major medical mainstay of the young army — and in January 1937 handed over its entire war sanitary organization to the Ministry of War. This consisted of 275 hospitals, sanatoriums and institutions; blood transfusion equipment; schools for nurses and first-aid men; hospital trains; factories making ambulances and stretchers; shops producing sur-

gical instruments and sanitary materials; pharmacies; and complete staffs of doctors, nurses and other personnel.

The Government received the magnificent gift gratefully, but the S. R. I. offered it with simplicity. Representing more than 350,000 anti-fascist Spaniards of all parties and classes, the Socorro Rojo wants nothing more than to strengthen the Republic and end the war victoriously. That is why the S. R. I. receives the unconditional support of the public in Spain and the fervent admiration of the anti-fascist world.

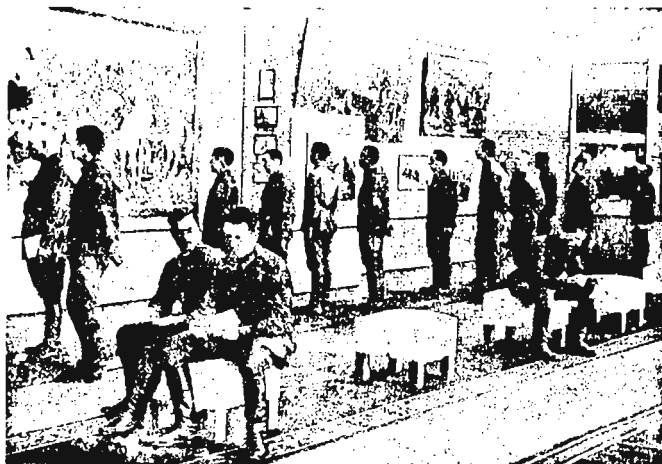
M. M.

Alvarez del Vayo, who recently resigned as Commissar General of War, has been appointed ambassador to France, Ossorio y Gallardo leaves that post to become ambassador to Argentina.



ONE of the many S. R. I. posters used in the present winter campaign to raise funds to get warm clothes for the soldiers at the front.

THE RED ARMY



RED ARMY officers studying art and culture.

The Red Army was constituted by the following government decree of February 21st, 1918.

"The old army was a product of the bourgeoisie formed with the object of oppressing the working-class. When power passed into the hands of the exploited masses of the toilers, the necessity arose of creating a new army which is now the upholder of the Soviets and the general basis of the people's fighting force."

The Red Army was formed and developed on this basis. In the course of its development it had to fight some hard battles; it was attacked by the interventionist armies and the White Guard generals; without clothes and arms; exhausted by more than three years' fighting. And despite all the difficulties this Army succeeded in driving the foreign armies and the White Guard forces from its territory.

The morale and the political level of the Red Army, which were already very high at the outset, developed further under the influence of Socialist construction.

Until 1930 the Red Army remained poorly armed. From that time onwards the fire power of its units began to grow. At the present time the fire power in the Red Army is superior not only to that in the French and American Armies, but also to that in the British Army.

STRONG DISCIPLINE

An iron discipline reigns in the Army. Nevertheless it is no question of blind obedience, but of the conscious proletarian discipline of a man to his duty cheerfully and conscientiously. What left

duty there is no difference between the commander and the soldier. The officers wear no distinguishing sign in the street. In the club the soldier meets the officer and they play chess together, and in the premises of the artistic circle they sing the same song. It is impossible to conceive of such things happening in any capitalist army. Both soldiers and commanders in the Red Army come from workers and peasants who are the masters of their country. Here are some revealing figures of the Red Army's social composition:

	1925	1930	1934
Workers...	11 %	31.2 %	45.8 %
Peasants..	84.7 %	57.9 %	42.5 %
White collar workers	4.3 %	10.9 %	11.7 %

As a consequence of the ever increasing industrialisation of the country the number of workers increases in proportion. Up to 1934 this number has been increased by four. At the present time the workers and peasants constitute the overwhelming majority in the Army. The growth of collectivisation has had its influence on the change in the quality of the peasant soldier of the Red Army. In 1934, 76.7 % of the peasants in the Red Army had worked in collectives, whereas in 1930 there were only 5.3 %. The figure for the working-class element in the command was 31.2 % in 1930, and in 1934 it already stood at 43.3 %. Half the officers' corps is composed of sons of workers and peasants. Every worker has access to the highest post in the Army, after, of course, a period of technical

training in an officers' school. This school is open to all Soviet citizens.

Those citizens who are doing military service are not deprived of their passive and active voting rights as is the case in all capitalist countries. They have the right to elect and to be elected.

As for the political aspect of the Red Army the following figures are significant. In 1934, 49.5 % of the whole Army were members of the Communist Party and the "Komsomol". In the command there were 68.5 % Komsomols and Communists. Seventy-two percent of the Brigade commanders were Party members. Ninety percent of the Division commanders and 100 % of the Army Corps commanders were Communists.

Just as in the factories, service in the Red Army is carried out on the basis of a 5 day week; the 6th day is a rest day. The foreign language course is compulsory in the Army, and every care is taken to develop the artistic talents of the soldiers. In addition to his pay, the soldier's family is maintained by the State and in all the military regions centres have been organised for the soldiers' children.

Many young fellows find their period of military service their

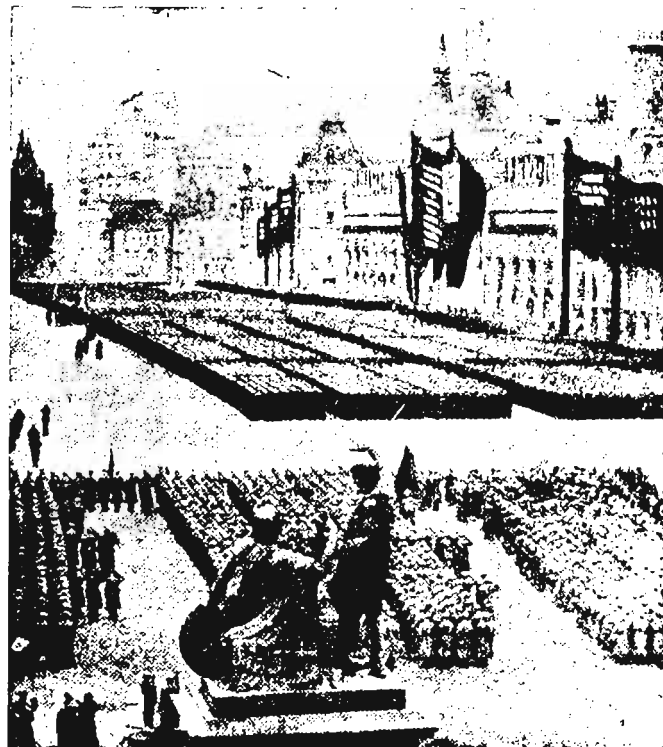
best school. Each of them receives a thorough general culture through courses and meetings. He learns the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism and he follows current political questions closely. The direction of this work falls on the political commissars of the particular units, while the military training is undertaken by the commanders who are also in charge during fighting. Naturally it is impossible to separate these two spheres of work — the one is the complement of the other. The military regulation says:

"In battle the political commissars should be in those places where it is necessary to give an example of sacrifice and courage."

TECHNICAL TRAINING

The Red Army soldier does not merely receive instruction in the social and political sphere, but in the scientific domain also, and he has the possibility of increasing his professional qualifications. In the old army the big land owners and capitalists ensured their power over the soldiers by means of checking their cultural development.

A few years ago a large number of illiterates were still entering the Red Army but not one of them completed his period of mi-



ON PARADE.

litary service without having learned to read and write. Today illiteracy has been liquidated in the country. Today the soldier in the Red Army learns several languages, reads the works of Gorki in the great "Red Army Libraries", attends lectures delivered by the most eminent professors.

The Red Army is in close contact with the people of the U. S. S. R. The Brigades of the Red Army take over the patronage of the collective farms and during the harvest the soldiers help the peasants. After completing their period of military service the members of the collectives become the most capable workers in the cultural centre of the village. As for physical culture it was formerly unknown in the village. To-

day it is an important factor in the educational domain, a factor making for health and beauty.

The Soviet land which possesses such a great defence force, both from the technical point of view and from the standpoint of morale and discipline, does not contemplate any wars of aggression against its near or distant neighbors. But they will defend the conquests of Socialist construction with their lives. They will defend their liberty and their happiness. In the words of the old Red Army song:

"We want no war with anyone."

For war is for the rich.

We want to be at peace with all —
We all want peace and work."



A MOTORIZED unit of the Red Army.

Despatch-Riders on the Job

Few men carry more responsibility in war time than the despatch-riders, and their work is proportionately difficult and dangerous. Picture a man riding a motor-cycle through the night as fast as he dare, not always sure where his own lines end and the fascist lines begin. He has nobody to talk to; every fascist marksman who happens to see him makes a special target of him, for the sake of what he carries. Despatches are not reassuring company. He has been riding all day; now it is dark and he is still riding. His is not an arm-chair job.

A group of cyclists is attached to each Brigade. They follow Headquarters and wait for instructions. During an action they have very little time to rest. Messages are put into their hands which they must deliver personally to the commanders of the various Brigade units, or to Divisional or Army Corps Headquarters. Once a rider receives his despatch, his sole object must be to deliver it as quickly as possible and not stop for anything.

When Headquarters establishes itself, he digs himself a hole nearby and leaves his machine as close at hand as he can. As soon as he gets the word to go, he goes, regardless of what is happening outside. He may have to go out in the middle of an air-raid or artillery bombardment. There may be machine-gun fire across that section. Whatever there is, he goes.

During an action, the Brigade

units are usually spread out over rough ground. The despatch-rider takes his chance. He must stay on his machine up to the last possible minute, in order to save time. The danger, the uncertainty, the lonely responsibility, together with the continual jolting and ceaseless work, put a heavy strain on a man's nerves.

Despatch-riders see something of all sides of the war, and become involved in a variety of adventures. A rider of the XV Brigade was sent back with a message to Quinto during the action at Fuentes. Those who were in that action will remember how the crest of the road was covered by fascist machine-guns. Although it was night, a bullet grazed the ri-

der's leg. It was not a serious wound, but it drew plenty of blood. He drove on and delivered the message. On his way back, he was approaching the line, when a stretcher-bearer stopped him. Somewhere beyond the trenches lay a wounded man, and the second bearer was missing. The rider got off his cycle to lend a hand.

Despite the bright moon, the two of them lost their way — a thing that often happens in no-man's land. Bullets began whistling over. The two men dropped into a hole.

"Have you a gun?" says the stretcher-bearer.

"Sure", says the rider, and

feels round for his revolver. He had left it behind.

At that moment a group of men rose up against the sky a few yards away. If they were fascists, the only thing an unarmed man could do was to run, and the only way to find out was to shout. He shouted.

"Who are you?"

The answer came back in English. — "Food detail."

Their relief can be imagined. They got out of the hole.

A diminutive Spaniard staggered by, carrying in his arms a soldier who had been wounded in the stomach. The despatch-rider was strongly built and took the man from him. Bullets dropped near him. He began to run. If anything did hit him, he was going to get it in the back. He went on running, despite his wounded leg. He ran until he almost dropped, but he reached the dressing-station.

Despatch-riders have a hard time, and when they get a rest they earn it.



HALPERN, BORNE and MINOT, Brigade cyclists.

RECOGNITION!

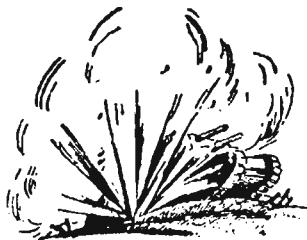
The Manchukuo Government has decided to extend formal recognition to General Franco's government in Spain and is waiting for Spanish recognition of Manchukuo.

Fascist Planes Continue To Bomb Civilian Population

Though, apart from Teruel activity has been limited to small skirmishes on the various fronts, there has been an increase in the number of insurgent air raids on towns and villages behind the Republican lines. On December 3 a number of bombing raids destroyed hundreds of homes in the villages near Madrid. In every case the aggressors were German Junkers. It will be recalled that fascist tactics are first to bomb non-military objectives miles behind the Government lines so as to try and break the people's morale and a few days later to launch their offensive on the front chosen for attack. These were the tactics adopted in Durango and Guernica, and later in the Asturias, where the people lacked arms to defend themselves. And these are the tactics which may be employed now, and which the Republican Army is prepared to counter. For Madrid is not Euzkadi; Madrid has not only the will, but the means with which to defend herself. And this is true of the whole of Republican Spain.

Air attacks have not only taken place in the Madrid sector, they have also increased along the whole of the Mediterranean coast. Barcelona has twice been the vic-

tim of German aggression. On one occasion fifteen Junkers caused 36 deaths and over a hundred wounded in a brief five minutes. It is



interesting to note that the fascist planes fly so high that it is impossible for them to hit their objectives with accuracy. Barcelona was bombed from 15,000 feet and not a single strategic point was hit. On the other hand the Republicans fly low and make sure of their objectives. On the same day as Barcelona was bombed, 24 Republican planes carried out a raid on Palma de Majorca, where they caused severe damage to the harbour and to the rebel aerodromes. They were attacked by rebel pursuit planes and in the ensuing battle three insurgent machines crashed in flames, while the Republicans lost one plane.



THE "constructive" spirit of fascism. One of the thousands of Spanish homes

New System of Education Introduced in Spain

The decree of October 30, 1937 established a new plan of studies for primary schools.

The new plan provides for a standard weekly time table which must be observed by all national teachers.

In order to have a clear understanding of the need for this reform which has just been brought about by the Ministry of Education, it must be borne in mind that the system hitherto in force dated from the year 1909 and had not been modified since that date. The only change was the suppression of religious teaching following the establishment of the Republic. In all other subjects teachers of to-day had to follow the instructions laid down by the monarchy 28 years ago. Moreover, Spain was in this respect an exception. In better organised countries schools are governed by laws and precepts which give education a nation-wide character, and which regulate the work of the teachers and assure that every citizen acquires a minimum of culture. Our schools, our teachers did not have these laws and precepts and thus lacked a criterion for their work suited to the social and cultural needs of Spain.

Such a criterion is now established by this recent decree of the Ministry of Education. This decree lays down which subjects are to be taught in all the schools and how much time is to be devoted to each subject every week.

There are some features in the new plan which are worthy of mention because they represent a real step forward in Spanish school life, which now becomes one of the most advanced in Europe.

Due importance is given to the Spanish language. Before learning grammar, children must first learn to speak, to read and to write as a necessary basis for the knowledge of their language. Our literature will be studied by means of recitation exercises and by reading the works of the great Spanish writers. The children will be given exercises so as to learn to express themselves freely and correctly.

Another interesting aspect is the importance given to the knowledge of the surroundings in which the child lives — the natural surroundings, the study of the things and the beings among which the

child lives and the social atmosphere. Visits to places of work are made obligatory: factories, workshops, mines, large industrial centres, so as to place the school in contact with the realities of the lives of the workers and with the means of production. On this basis a new subject in the plan of primary studies is created: economic and social knowledge, which has hitherto been absent from the school curriculum.

Preferential attention will be paid to practical work and to manual labour, which will form the basis of all school work. In this way the child will be familiarised from the very beginning with the methods and tools of



work and will acquire a feeling of unity of effort in production and a consciousness of his future social destiny.

History will be given a new orientation. Its content will be revised so as to determine the decisive part played by the people in every great event in history.

Great attention will be paid to physical culture. There will not only be a regular period for drill every day, but once a week an entire afternoon will be devoted to physical culture, games and sports so as to assure the healthy corporal development of the children.

Religious teaching and moral teaching given in the form of dogmas, which were completely useless, are suppressed. But the teachers will be encouraged to create an atmosphere of uprightness, cleanliness and honesty in order to influence the behavior of the children. The children will also be shown the example of those men who by their works and their lives have contributed to make the peoples happier, freer and more progressive.

Paris Archbishop Defends Freedom

Cardinal Verdier, archbishop of Paris, put the church on the side of liberty in a recent conference on the subject of "The Church and Spiritual Freedom in the Present Hour".

Describing the political evolution of the modern world, he said that after three great stages — slavery, servitude, and finally compensated service — humanity is still forced to struggle ceaselessly to break the chains of oppression. The Church has never stopped proclaiming that all men are equal.

It is necessary, he continued, for the church to stand by the democracies, because the individual must not be absorbed by the state. The Archbishop declared that the rights of men and citizens cannot be overlooked. When they are, public misfortune is bound to occur.



SPANISH WOMEN are well aware of the part their men are playing at the front against fascism; consequently, more and more are enlisting in their country's industries to help the Republic.

The Bacon Comes Home

Animal life in Spain is at sixes and sevens. Dogs and cats cease to be domesticated; nobody has time to bother with them. On the other hand, edible creatures are now suffering from the delusion that the human race loves them for themselves alone.

The other day a sheep, drawn by a bond of sympathy, entered the premises of the Estado Mayor, and roamed through the rooms and passages as if it was already on the staff. (By now it probably is). It became the faithful friend of anybody who petted it.

This is not just rustic lack of savoir faire. The same thing happens in the cities. This morning a few comrades were drinking their modest beer in the canteen of the Political Commissariat in Madrid when a pig appeared. The pig was absolutely solid and it had no purple spots. A man would have to drink that canteen dry if he wanted anything more than that. It was a pig.

An English comrade contemplated it in silence for many minutes, and then turned round with a wide smile.

"You can cook me a couple of eggs", he said.

ICKES WARNS AGAINST FASCISM

An attack upon the forces of fascism was made by Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, in a speech before the American Civil Liberties Union in New York recently.

He declared that, in his judgment, the moment had come for the strongest democratic powers of the world to join together quickly to resist the attack of the totalitarian states upon their liberties. The naive optimism that the forms of democratic government can be protected in some indefinite manner must be dropped, he said. Mr. Ickes pointed out that right in the United States there are various fascist tendencies which have to be treated forcibly. He gave the example of the Ku Klux Klan which was broken up by the federal authorities because of its menace to Americanism.

We must be aware today, he said, of "the new madness of the fascist nations which constitutes a threat to the United States, its constitutional rights and the liberties of the people".

The Secretary of the Interior continued: "There are certain nations very proud of their civilization, who proceed to commit ag-

gressions against their neighbors, without the excuse of the slightest act of provocation. Their announced purpose is the elimination of communism. With that pretext, they carry out a series of crimes that would make the worst savages blush with shame. But among ourselves there are similar elements who for similar reasons desire to see the American democratic institutions weakened.

"It is not necessary to have much intelligence to perceive that this phantom of communism is nothing more than a new Trojan horse, behind which fascism plots to conceal itself in order to force the walls of the temple of liberty."

In his conclusion, Mr. Ickes argued that the framers of the American constitution could not foresee the great concentration of wealth which has developed in recent generations. But, as a result, industry and finance have the advantage over the liberties of the people. For this reason, argued Mr. Ickes, "it is necessary to think about a constitutional reform which would safeguard the citizens in their relations with the corporations".

"Attlee Company" Rapped by Tories

LONDON. — The Conservative M. P., Turton, called Mr. Anthony Eden's attention in one of the recent sessions of the House of Commons, to the fact that there now exists a "Major Attlee Company" fighting on the loyalist side of Spain. The Tory M. P. demanded to know the number of Britishers in the Republican forces. He wanted to know if the Spanish Republican Government could not possibly change the name because, he said, the present name might confuse Britishers regarding the attitude of strict "neutrality" on the part of Britain toward the Spanish conflict.

Eden answered that he knew of the existence of the "Major Attlee Company," but that he was ignorant of the number of those fighting with it. He added that he did not think it necessary for the British Government to intervene.

Basket-Ball For Spanish Youth

The good old American game of basket-ball is going to be popularized in Spain. The Bureau of Physical Education of the General War Commissariat has decided that it is the ideal sport for Loyalist soldiers. A committee is working on methods of instruction, training and preparing courts for the game.

Basket-ball is fairly well-known in the large cities of Spain, and it is felt that young Spaniards everywhere will welcome the game with enthusiasm. As an especially suitable sport for war conditions, it requires small playing space, minimum equipment and few players on either side. It can be played both indoors and outside, which is another advantage.

As a means of physical training for soldiers and recruits, the game calls for strength, agility, concentration, speed and teamwork. These qualities may develop at the same time as the pleasure of playing is experienced. For these reasons, the committee considers basket-ball the most complete and best-adapted game for the members of the People's Army. Plans will be made eventually for tournament between companies and battalions, and finally for teams representing all the brigades of the army.

BASQUES IN CATALONIA

In an interview the provisional president of the Basque Government, Elidoro de la Torre, stated the following:

"The Basque State functions in Catalonia with complete economic and judicial independence. It fulfils all the functions assigned to it by the Spanish Cortes, and is trying to normalise the life of its subjects, momentarily interrupted by the hazards of war."

Elidoro de la Torre then fully described the economic progress of the life of the Basque people.

"There are now many Basque workers in Barcelona employed in the factories and workshops devoted to war industries, where they are much appreciated because of their skill. Those who are still without work are anxious to join their comrades."

"We also try to find employment for the Basque women in Catalonia."

"We would like to see every

Basque citizen employed and capable of supporting himself so as not to be a burden to the Spanish Government."

"There are approximately 150,000 Basques in Catalonia. To solve the food problem of these people we plan to open distributing stores where all Basque citizens, with the corresponding rationing card supplied to them by the Basque authorities will be able to buy a fair portion of food, in proportion to the food regulations of the rest of Spain. This will relieve the Central Government of the task of supplying food to an important section of the population."

"The Government of Euzkadi wants this and the Basques wish to work so as to be able to support themselves and so as not to be a burden. At the same time we are deeply thankful for Catalonia's fraternal welcome."

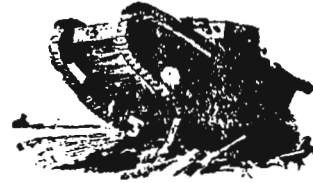
SPANISH COMMITTEE RETURNS FROM U. S. S. R.

The Spanish Committee of Friends of the Soviet Union, which visited the U. S. S. R. with greetings on its twentieth anniversary, has returned full of happiness at the welfare of Spanish

children, and many of them are already beginning to learn the language of the country which has harbored them so warmly.

The delegation reported with great emotion the first meeting its members had with the Spanish children, who embraced them with great jubilation. The children were healthy and contented, seeming to have been brought to another planet.

A statement by the chairman of the Committee said: "In the Soviet Union there are people of all temperaments, but they all appear dominated by a common idea of comradeship, of sacrifice for the collective welfare. As already indicated, the children are considered of main importance in the U. S. S. R. All good things are devoted to them, and the best is given to the little Spaniards living with them."



refugee children in the Soviet Union.

The Spanish children, they report, are not only magnificently cared for; they are also educated according to the principles of the people, who as a matter of law devote maximum attention to the child. Spanish youngsters attend the same schools as the Russian

BILL INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS TO HELP LEGAL GOVERNMENTS

Congressman Jerry O'Connell has submitted a bill to Congress recently to amend the Neutrality Act to permit the shipment of munitions to legally constituted governments. At the same time the bill would prevent exportation of war materials to aggressor nations and would forbid the use of American vessels in carrying such materials.

BRITISH BATTALION STAGES SPORTS FIESTA

The British Battalion's Sports Fiesta, held while the Brigade was at rest, included both peace-time and military events. Plenty of enthusiasm and plenty of good form were forth-coming. The inter-unit shooting and bomb-throwing contests showed an excellent standard.

The Spanish football teams beat the British Battalion and Anti-Tanks. The Lincoln-Washingtons won their game. Boxing events were held at the same time in the Plaza de Toros. The British have among them an amateur champion who bowled an American giant completely over.

Comrade Cypriano a Spanish section-leader, entered the ring with a Scottish opponent, both grinning broadly. They knocked each other all over the place, but never stopped grinning. Cypriano won. This is the spirit in which men should do their fighting. The fascists have introduced other styles into Cypriano's country.

BOMB THROWING EVENT

The shooting event was arranged for teams of ten men. British, Lincoln and Mac-Paps competed. At about half-time two Scouts arrived. They had been unable to

make up a full team from their small unit, but were not to be discouraged from having a few shots when the others had finished.

Teams shot at ranges of 100 and 200 metres, five shots a man on each range. Four points were allowed for a bull. The umpires were offering 5 for a marker, but the markers didn't give anybody a chance. The British had some good individual marksmen but on all-round form came in second to the Mac-Paps, who totalled 255 out of a possible 400.

The husky men of the Lincolns came into their own in the bomb-throwing. Pitching for distance they reached 45 paces, Mac-Paps a few paces behind. Rules of the accuracy contest required that bombs should be lobbed over a short distance into a narrow trench on the further side of a parapet. Lincolns scored 3 to the other units' 1 each.

The military events were supervised by the British Battalion Adjutant, with an efficiency that did not diminish as the cold crept into his bones. He even took care to see that solidarity with the Spanish peasants was maintained when the events were over, by directing the home-going competitors around the crops.

Movie Actors Aid Spain

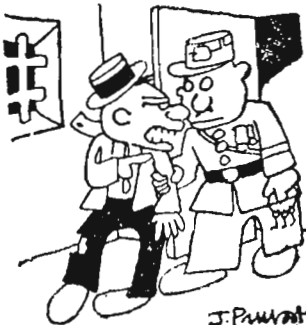
The Hollywood Committee, composed of leading movie actors and directors, has inaugurated a week of aid to Spanish youngsters. The committee is offering a handsome seal for public subscription. On a background of red and green is the slogan "Help the Spanish children." The proceeds will be used to send several boatloads of toys and clothing for Spanish orphans and refugees.

Similar collections are being undertaken all over the democratic world, and the committee under which the Hollywood group operates includes Lloyd George, the Duchess of Atholl, Eduard Herriot and President Cardenas of Mexico.

U. S. Communists Recruit in Open

The American Communist Party will now conduct open recruiting for volunteers to Spain. This announcement was made by Earl Browder, despite the decision of the U. S. Department of State to issue passports for Spain exclusively to doctors, nurses and other members of medical units.

DELICACY



"See here—don't go locking me up with the aristocracy. I ain't their class, and I got a sense of redemption."



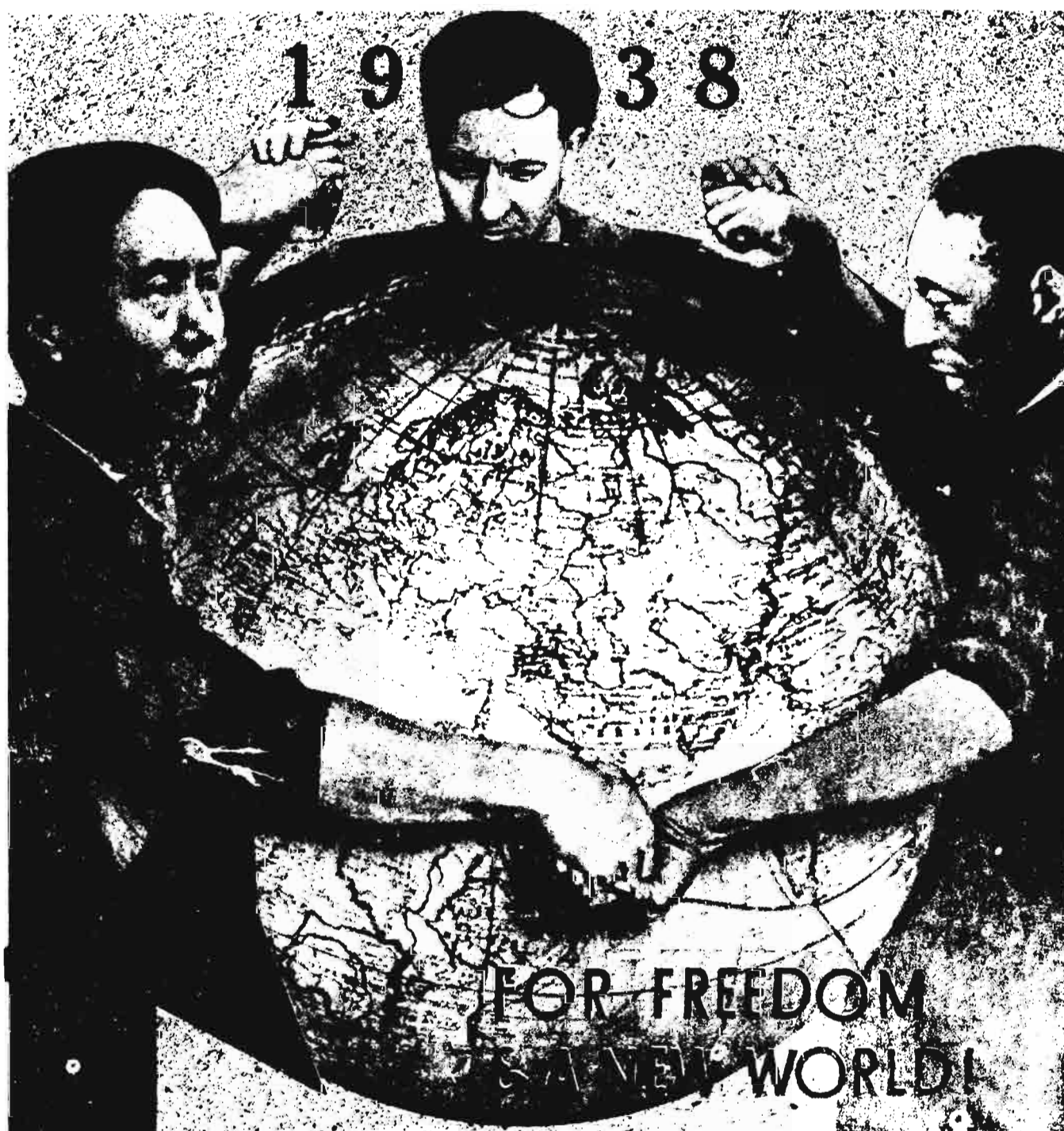
The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. I - N.º 28

Madrid, December 27 - 1937



Teruel Offensive Upsets Fascist Intrigues Abroad

At the beginning of December Spain was definitely not in the news in Britain. The reason could hardly be ascribed to the *all quiet* atmosphere on the various fronts because every journalist believed that it was the calm before the storm. The question was: who would unloose the storm and where?

Odds were on Franco, who, fresh from battering his way to victory against the ill-armed and isolated Government forces of the North, was shouting out to high heaven his immediate intention of sweeping down on the other Government fronts and crushing finally and determinedly the resistance of the "Reds". Other more experienced observers, remembering that for eight months Franco had been on the defensive on all the main fronts, likewise believed that it was his turn to show that he could do something against the main armies of the Republic. Half a dozen seasoned war correspondents forecast a fascist offensive on half a dozen different fronts from Jaca down to Almeria.

But of all this not a line in the British newspapers. Not even in the Liberal dailies! Why the strange silence? Only a few weeks before the same press had been featuring forecasts of a truce, of a peace even, in Spain. Such rumours had ceased only when the Republican Government had peremptorily and categorical-

ly denied them, and had insisted that peace will come only with the victory of Republican cause.



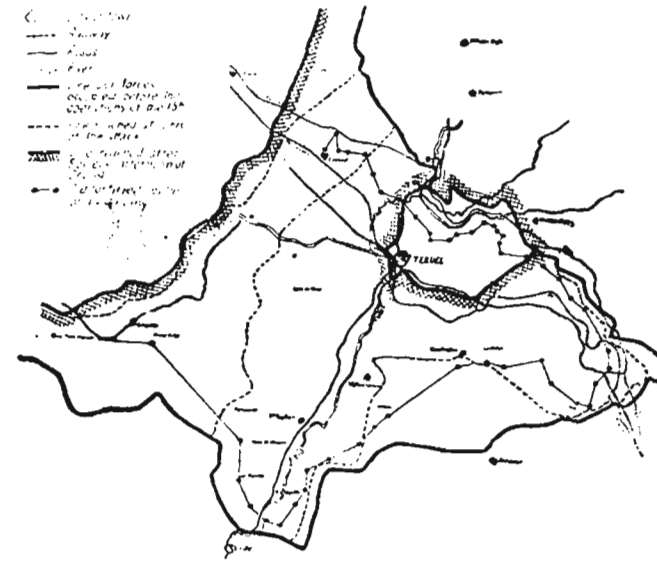
ly denied them, and had insisted that peace will come only with the victory of Republican cause.

There is a connection between the rumours of compromise and peace, and the subsequent boycott of Spanish news by most of the British press.

It is common knowledge that a section of the British ruling class, strongly represented in the Government, is working hand and glove with International Fascism.

It is common knowledge that this section has been trying to help their fascist friends out of a dilemma. International Fascism has invaded Spain, and at least by November last, Hitler and Mus-

solini had realised that they were fighting a losing game. The drain on their money, munitions and men was not being justified by results. They had staked their claims to mineral wealth in the North and in Cordoba. They were willing to cut their losses and pull out. Their friends in the British ruling class were to secure for them by peace what they themselves could not win by war. That, in a nutshell, is the truth behind the peace rumours of a month ago. The rumours were feelers.



MAP OF OF THE GENERAL OPERATIONS EFFECTED IN THE CAPTURE OF TERUEL.—The heavy black line indicates the position of our forces before beginning the operations. The broken line shows how far the Loyal forces advanced 12 hours after the beginning of the attack. The screened lines show to what extent they continued the advance in the late afternoon of December 19th. The dotted black lines show the old fortified positions of the enemy.

But the Republican people want their country, the whole country, and nothing less will suffice them. So the Republican Government answered the peace feelers with an emphatic "NO!" Baffled, the pro-fascists of Britain decided that as a preliminary to further presentation of their compromise plans which they have not abandoned, sympathy and support for Spain must be damped down in Britain. Hence the silence, even in the Liberal press, on the Spanish issue.

Meanwhile how does Franco fare? Two incidents are revealing.

words, one third of the combined fascist air armada is tied up in Spain in the service of Franco. Of that one-third practically half had to be concentrated on the Madrid front in July last to hold up the Republican offensive. Eighty-three were shot down! At such a rate of losses Germany and Italy cannot afford to continue to supply Franco, and at the same time maintain their necessary home strength.

Again, Franco has a chronic shortage of men. The Government forces are continuously being augmented. On the great battlefield from North to South the Government is fortifying its line and bringing up ever more and more reserves. Franco is faced with the necessity of doing likewise or, in default, leaving weak points in his line which the Republicans will be able to break through. This puts tremendous additional burdens on Franco and his masters.

So, for military as well as political reasons, Franco was content to talk of the coming big push, to keep the Government on

the defensive, to keep them quiet, to perpetuate the atmosphere of apparent stalemate in Spain, to facilitate the intriguing which he hoped would end the war and thus prevent him from being driven out of Spain entirely. Meanwhile the press in Britain was to say nothing except that both sides had fought themselves to a standstill, that neither side could win, that a truce should be arranged and Spain be divided between the fascists and the Republicans.

It was good diplomacy; at least it looked so. Major Attlee was the first to jar it. Major Attlee came to Spain and brought back a story of the Republic that was the very opposite of the story the British press was being instructed to present. He told of an organised people, of an organised and well trained army, of a stirring enthusiasm for victory. Major Attlee's leader of His Majesty's opposition, could not be boycotted, nor his speeches suppressed.

Then came the thunderclap. Unheralded, unexpected, the offensive began in Spain — and not where the experts had forecast. Nor was it a fascist offensive. In a lightning thrust the Government forces brilliantly smashed through fascist strongholds, su-



Mr. Anthony Eden, British Tory schemer.

rounded and captured the important strategic city of Teruel.

So a plot goes wrong. Willy nilly, the British press has Spain on the front pages these days.

F. R. and A. D.

REQUETES MAKE APPEAL AGAINST FOREIGN INVASION

The disintegration in the fascist line-up shows signs of increasing steadily. One of the most genuinely significant splits is among the requetes, that section of the fascist forces which feels that it is defending church and religion. "La Vanguardia", a Barcelona newspaper, published a photostatic copy recently of the following appeal made by requete leaders to their followers:

"The blood shed by so many thousands of our brothers makes it necessary for us to begin looking facts in the face. In our fight for God and country we have overlooked the fact that we are giving away our land to foreigners; our army, our wealth, our frontiers, our institutions of the new state we are building—all is in their hands. Their insolence knows no limits. If such is the case now when the outcome of the war is still uncertain, are we not obliged to ask what it will be after the victory?

"By blood and battle we are preventing the Marxist Government from enslaving the Catholic church. Shall we now permit it to be enslaved by a state controlled by the invader? The publication has been prohibited in Catholic Spain of the encyclical of March 14, 1937, issued by our sainted father, Pope Pius XI. In it His Holiness condemns the theory of the invasion of Spain based on the argument that the Government has crushed the Church of Christ. Likewise it tells of the tremendous persecutions in Germany launched against Catholic priests and nuns, and the wave of mud heaped upon them.

"Meanwhile the same ones who persecute Christ in their own country are entrenching themselves in our nation, taking charge of our frontiers, our wealth and even of our institutions.

"Requetes, open your eyes! You will see that we too are selling Jesus Christ for thirty pieces of silver!"

FRANCO'S DILEMMA

God knows it's a tough situation when one man dictates to a nation.

With two others as well,
Does it work? Does it hell!
It's I have to take the dictation!



Photo of Moors found among other papers in the possession of an Italian soldier taken prisoner at Guadalajara.

MUSSOLINI'S ETHIOPIAN VENTURE BRINGS FRUITLESS HARVEST

The expectations based upon the conquest of Ethiopia, have become disillusioned after eighteen months of occupation of that land. This is the general reaction throughout Italy, according to "La Voce degli Italiani", anti-fascist periodical published in Paris by exiles and refugees from Mussolini's terror. The article shows that the year and a half since Ethiopia fell have been a period during which disappointment has developed into discontent and uneasiness.

This feeling is spread to all parts of Italy, and in every social sphere the idea is taking body that the enormous military costs and human sacrifices of the Ethiopian war have brought no benefits. On the contrary, people are thinking that these losses have made the home situation worse. Time has already shown that the conquered territory cannot be profitably exploited. The promised jobs for individuals and wealth for Italy have not been forthcoming.

At the beginning many people supported the war, feeling that the annexation of Ethiopia would

result in great advantages, including reduced unemployment. The promises and boasts of Mussolini were extravagant, but people were not yet prepared to doubt. Today they are, for none of the Duce's great claims can be fulfilled. The discontent is gradually making its way into the open. Fuel is fed by the pessimistic views of Italian workers who have been sent to Ethiopia.

These workers testify that the soil is practically impossible for farming purposes. They say further that they were pressed into the army and made to serve like regular soldiers. The need for a large and active army is obvious, they point out, because the natives everywhere are hostile. In addition to that peril, these workers found the cost of living high, supplies irregular and undependable, and basic essentials scarce. The great majority of these returned Italians, it seems, would refuse even by force to go back to Ethiopia. They would prefer to die of hunger at home than to undergo again the penalties and sacrifices of Mussolini's non-existent opportunities.

Traders and industrial agents bring back the same reports and show the same feeling of futility. Like the workers, they also express doubt and discouragement concerning the economic prospects of Italy in Ethiopia. Mussolini's African adventure has accomplished the usual fascist result: the condition of the Italian people has grown more difficult.

MILITARY PLAN FOR MEXICAN UNIONISTS

The workers of Mexico will not be taken unawares by the fascists of their country. Mexican workers are beginning a course in military training.

The General Confederation of Workers of Mexico at its recent national congress decided to form a military organization, to which all of its members must belong. This step was taken with a view to the possibility of a fascist attempt to seize power through violence.



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TIGHTENING OUR BELTS

In a recent speech to the Plenum of the Spanish Communist Party, Vicente Uribe, Minister of Agriculture, made an examination of the economic consequences of the war. He pointed out that the resources of the country were being severely strained because war is a costly business, that factories normally producing goods for internal consumption or for export trade were now producing war material thus causing a shortage in certain articles, and that sheer waste in the earlier days had added to the present difficulties.

The Government is facing up to the problem of utilising the economic resources to the fullest extent in order to meet the demands of war. When Uribe made this speech he made it with the intention of mobilising public support behind the Government in this matter. In its programme of the nationalisation of the war industry, the improvement in agricultural output, the elimination of all waste, and the general tightening of belts all round, the Government must have the enthusiastic support of the soldiers at the front and the workers in the rear.

Spain must still buy arms where she can until such time as her own arms industry can supply everything for the war. She must buy coal for her furnaces and railroads. She must buy every pint of oil and petrol for her lorries, tanks and planes. To do so she must cut down on the purchase of articles which are not so vital, on coffee, sugar, tobacco, paper, etc.

This very necessary policy has its effect upon conditions inside Spain, conditions which call for sacrifice based upon an understanding of the situation. When we feel a little exasperated with the universal "NO HAY!", we must remember why. It is better to feel that there is petrol in the tanks of our planes even if the coffee does taste less sweet, that there are still bullets for our rifles even if the tobacco is not so good, or as plentiful as it might be.

The Republican Government has been very generous to the soldiers in the lines. It has carried out a policy of "only the best is good enough for the front". When there has been a shortage of food in the towns, there has still been sufficient in the trenches. When the civilian population and the peasants have almost forgotten how to roll cigarettes, there has still been a fair supply of tobacco for the soldiers. The soldiers have always come first with the Government.

For our part we must do everything possible in return. We must wage a war against waste; we must cut down our requirements to a minimum. The International Volunteers who have shown the Spanish people that they are prepared to fight and die, if necessary, for Liberty and Democracy, must also show them that they are prepared to face other consequences of war — the tightening of belts, the cutting down of little luxuries.

CUBAN STUDENT DELEGATION IN SPAIN

In response to the appeal issued by Spanish and Catalanian students to celebrate an International Students Week, Cuba's organized students sent two delegates. They were José López Sánchez, representing the Student Federation of the University of Havana, and Nerina Luque, representing the

was able to investigate the educational activities in Spain by visiting colleges, schools, institutes and other centers for training and recreation. As a result, they are greatly impressed by the cultural efforts and plans they have found everywhere. In the name of the organizations they represent, the-



José López Sánchez (Left), representing the Student Federation of the University of Havana, and Nerina Luque, delegate from the Havana Normal School. They are seen talking to "El Campesino", who is next to the girls.

Normal School for Teachers, of Havana. se Cuban students pay tribute to the Minister of Public Instruction,

The Cuban student delegation of the People's Front Government.

CUBAN STUDENT DELEGATION GREETES I. B. SOLDIERS

Comrades of the International Brigades, we salute you in the name of the Cuban students and we express our admiration for your heroism in the defense of democracy and universal culture.

Brother Cubans, we embrace you in the memory of the admirable example of Pablo de la Torriente Brau, Rodolfo de Armas, and many others. Imitate them.

I shall return to my country certain of the triumph of the Spanish people, which will be the triumph of all the peoples of the world.

JOSE LOPEZ SANCHEZ
Delegate of the Student Federation of
the University of Havana.

QUEIPO TAKES THE CAKE

Honors for the tallest story of the Teruel action go as usual to Queipo de Llano. According to report, he has broadcast to the world at large the following explanation of the defeat. Republican troops in flight from the fascists at Guadalajara ran all the way to Teruel and took it by mistake. Queipo has always been a gentlemen's clown.

SWISS TELLS OF OPPRESSION IN FASCIST SPAIN

The "National Zeitung" of Switzerland published the following article in one of its recent numbers written by a Swiss who is reputed to be well-informed on what is going on in the fascist zone of Spain.

"The situation in Andalusia is certainly not of a rosy color and it is not possible to say there is enthusiasm or the spirit of victory. The cost of living has increased more than 20 percent. In many residences people live on credit, as they are unemployed and have no means to pay. Numerous Spaniards have sought refuge by fleeing to Republican territory. A poster proves how great is the fear of espionage; it reads as follows: 'Take care; your neighbor might be an enemy spy.' Consequently everyone preserves strict silence on all matters that might give the impression of dejection or discontent. The taxes, direct and indirect, and the bad living conditions forced on the workers by the military insurrectionists right from the start have led to the abolition of days off from work at the same time that wages have gone down.

SEVILLE SEIZED

Seville voted a large Popular Front majority in the elections of February 1936. Most of these voters, as a logical reaction, expressed themselves against the industrialists and large proprietors who had sabotaged, by all methods, the social improvements instituted by the young Republic.

We learned of the uprising at midnight. While we were listening to the radio broadcast from Madrid, the gross voice of an official suddenly broke in to announce that our city had been occupied by the Foreign Legion and that Moroccan troops were on the point of arrival. When the workers, alarmed, rushed to the municipal authorities to demand arms, they were already too late. The city buildings were manned by troops. There followed several agitated and uncertain weeks, during which rifle fire was frequently heard at night. The official figures say that 300 persons were shot in this city during the course of the year. In reality, the number is 2,000. Each citizen known to have the slightest left-wing tendency was assassinated. I have never been a socialist, but

I have known many Spaniards who were; they were animated by the highest of ideals.

Some weeks passed, however,



before the little neighboring towns were subjugated. I have seen the faces of Moroccan troops returning from these local expeditions, with wounds that were produced by nothing less than bullets. The fascists never had an easy job.

Two months after the beginning of the civil war arrived the first Italians and the first Germans, almost simultaneously. Once I asked some Italians whether they had really come to Spain as volunteers. Their answer was a

smile of resignation. But an officer lurking nearby thrust his way forward and shouted, "Naturally, we have all come here through our own free will." At times I have actually heard German troops say they never understood that fighting was to be their purpose in Spain. In general, it is quite certain that the Italian "liberators" are not greatly respected, particularly since Guadalajara. The Germans are better regarded; the best hotels have been reserved for them and in many meetings the call "Heil Hitler" is heard. I cannot be sure whether this phrase is used ironically or otherwise.

Between the Falangists and the Requetes there sometimes occur clashes in public, but here too I am not sure how dangerous these events are for Franco's cause. On the facades of Seville are posters with Mussolini's slogan: "The king is the symbol of the country."

On one occasion there were several acts of sabotage committed by railwaymen, with numerous executions resulting as usual.

Several times great preparations were made to celebrate the capture of Madrid. Each delay in the festivities was explained by

the announcement that Franco does not care to destroy the capital. Occasionally the police issue orders that balconies on the principal streets be decorated gaily for the sake of good appearances.

As a Swiss, I have not experienced any difficulties. But a Swiss passport is not always a talisman, as is proved by the case of our compatriot, Juan Duss. He was identified as a socialist because he had spoken a few words



at a meeting held prior to the rebellion. Franco's government expelled him with every member of his family. He was lucky. Were he a Spaniard he would have been promptly shot.

Another Swiss, one St. Gallois, is actually imprisoned in Saragossa.

It gets worse and worse. There is no taking of a placid breath in the Spain of Franco, no matter how often he announces that all is well."



Spanish women saving their home furnishings. Those who were able to move out of fascist territory in time took with them their home necessities.

"El Guerrillero"—Underground Fighter Against Fascism"

A Letter From a Comrade Active On The Extremaduran Front Describes Guerilla Warfare.

Dear J. L.,

In the Extremaduran sector, especially in the province of ... evidence of the continual and heroic partisan warfare being carried on behind the fascist lines is obvious. This guerrilla fighting plus the deliberate and organized sabotage carried on by the Spanish workers there is playing a major role in defeating Franco and his German and Italian allies.

The hardships these guerrilleros undergo is terrific. One seldom hears of their exploits; they are truly the unsung heroes of the war. Living on little more than olives, they carry on work so effectively in Franco's territory that he must keep a large police unit of Italians and Moors at all times.

The other day a youngster fifteen years old came into town driving a hundred head of cattle before him. He had driven them forty kilometers over the mountains, walking two days and two nights. Working for a rich fascist in the enemy held section of ... this boy planned carefully to get the cows into Loyalist territory. By himself, with nothing more than a sling and some rocks, he herded the animals over the front. The lad is alone in the world, his brother having been shot by the enemy.

Last night I stood guard with a young Spanish soldier who fought for a year in the mountains around ... He says the fascists are afraid to come into the highlands, knowing it is a stronghold of the guerrilleros. This young soldier walked to the Portugal border, then to a waterfront town. There he contacted the Socorro Rojo — in Portugal — and was hid on a French boat by some longshoremen and sailors. He showed me the note given him by the Socorro Rojo. It asks all anti-fascists to aid the young man in his attempt to get back to Loyalist Spain. He is here now, on the southern front, ready for the attack that will take back his home town from the fascist hands. He tells of large battles that he took part in when the guerrilleros swept out of the hills and raided fascist garrisons railroad depots and supply concentrations.

To meet the comrades who actually work in the fascist lines is next to impossible. When they come back to Loyalist territory with information, they never expose themselves. However, I managed to contact one of these fellows and I want to try to give you a true picture of this comrade and his work.

For the sixth time I have come to the little vine-joint for my meeting with the guerrilleros. On all the previous occasions my Spanish friend has apologized for not bringing him, explaining that it was necessary to employ every precaution because of the nature of the work behind fascist lines.

At one of the tables a group of campesinos are singing. The fat fellow, whose well-fed paunch is singular in these times, is singing a flamenco, his Cyrano nose going a deep purple as he tries to hit the difficult plaintive timanendes of the song.

My Spanish friend enters with a companion dressed in black corduroy. They join me and we order another bottle of wine. The comrade in black corduroy hardly looks like a guerrillero. He appears soft and timid. However, one cannot tell.

My Spanish friend removes my doubts by apologizing again for failing to bring the guerrillero, telling me how careful these comrades must be, especially the type he wants me to talk with, one who works openly in fascist territory. Of course, I know this. We are less than twenty five kilometers behind the lines, and the mountainous region of the southern front gives many opportunities to fascist spies. There are

times when one hears evidence of the lying propaganda of Franco's agents.

So again I forget my guerrillero, and we discuss everything from "mujeras" to international politics.

After about an hour of conversation we go from the dimly-lit vine joint into the dark street. As I turn to leave my companions and return to the barracks, the comrade in black corduroy grasps



Above is shown a fascist officer leading a group of peasants to their death for defending their Republic. Below can be seen how the peasant in the rebel zone is forced to work under the watchful eye of his master.



underground as does any Party worker in Germany. On my pad I have written the name of a mountain where a band of guerrilleros hide. I have written that a fascist soldier gets one peseta a day on the front, fifty centimos behind the lines, and that a peasant gets three pesetas a day for his labor. That in this sector Spaniards pressed into service by Franco are closely guarded by Italians and Moors; that the Spanish boys shoot most their bullets in the air, and desert in bands. This desertion-business is no news to me. I have seen them come in by the truck-load.

I have written down that the publicity given the guerrilleros' activities now is nil for good reasons. This young hero himself has blown up a number of trains on the other side. I have written of a sector in the fascist rearguard where the fighting is organized: where the combined refugees and guerrilleros sweep down from the hills and wage pitched battles.

In the mountains, as well as among the peasants on the other side, the intrepid guerrillero finds friends, food and hiding. They are his own people, and shelter him from a common enemy. Most of the food in fascist held Spain is imported; it goes to the foreign mercenaries.

"How old are you?"

"Twenty-seven."

"I'm twenty seven, too." We laugh.

"We are both Communists," he says, "yet I cannot be confidential with you. I regret it deeply. But it is impossible. I am under the strictest discipline."

His eyes go to my writing pad again. Tearing out the sheets I have used, I rip them in half.

"You might walk out into the street," he continues, "and someone gets a hold of this." He tears his sheets into tiny bits.

On the papers I have written many other interesting and important things. But they must be forgotten until some day in the future—and I would like to see that day—when the fecund fields of..., now lying fallow because of fascism, will bloom again with a new vigor under a Free Republic of Spain.

S. P.



Refugees from fascist territory (above) on their arrival on the Republican side. The peasant (below) on Loyal soil, liberated from the oppressive conditions of the past years, is now moving forward to greater collectivization.

my elbow and leads me in the other direction.

We enter an adobe house where two men and a woman are sitting at a table eating. The peasant in black corduroy loads me down with figs, nuts and bread until my pockets are so full I can hardly walk. Then the woman insists that I sit down to eat. And now the peasant begins to pour rich, ruby, Andalucian wine into me.

Around the table there is a warm, delicious atmosphere of home. I drink it all in with a nostalgia accentuated by a year of war.

I tell them about America, its heavy and light industries, and its labor movement, and its government. As I rise to go, my Spanish friend, dramatically, in the inimitable way of southern Spaniards, with a sweeping gesture of his hand, says:

"El guerrillero".

Surprised, I turn to meet the honest blue eyes of a little fellow at the end of the table. He smiles nervously. He is a characteristic looking fellow, blue eyes bleached by long living in the open, a sensitive rubicund face, sharp aquiline nose, teeth and high cheekbones.

Anywhere but here, the introduction would have been stogy. But the dramatic quality of the southern Spaniards is as real as their high mountains, which look like theatre props, with gauze clouds hanging about the peaks.

"Sit down, sit down", I say, "we'll talk." And I pull a boner by throwing a writing pad on the table. The guerrillero fidgets.

"I'm under a very strict discipline," he says. "I should not be doing this. I am ordered to speak to no one."

"You only need tell me general things."

My Spanish friend is bending over my other ear, firing words so rapidly that my head begins to grow dizzy. "Despacio, despacio, camarada."

Then through the vapor of "vino" it begins to dawn on me what they are trying to put across, that I have made a faux pas. The young guerrillero works as much

1937-YEAR OF RESISTANCE & VICTORIOUS OFFENSIVES

Jarama, Guadalajara, Brunete, Córdoba, Quinto, Belchite & Teruel

ON TO FINAL VICTORY — 1938!

"HOGAR DE NIÑOS"

Soldiers of the XI Brigade Maintain A Home for Children who are Victims of War

The achievements of the International Brigades on the battle fields perhaps tend to obscure the work of peace and friendship that they are performing at the same time. No where does it appear so clearly as in their concern for the children of Spain. Despite all other preoccupations, the volunteers are proceeding with a campaign to increase the number of children's homes they are maintaining. Already there are several — in Murcia, Madrid, Valencia and elsewhere. As time goes on there will be more.

Several hundred little Spaniards are wards of the International Brigades, but the political commissariat has found that the men are eager to enlarge this form or aid. A specific plan is under way to establish a home, fully supported, for the young sons and daughters of Spanish comrades killed in action with units of the International Brigades. The existing homes will also continue. For anti-fascists, determined that the world shall be free and peaceful and equal for all, believe that "who has the youth has the future." They also know that these homes have proved themselves to be among the worthiest contributions that can be made to a people defending with their lives the Republic they created with their votes.

As in so many other things, the German comrades pioneered with

these havens for little Spanish boys and girls. They founded the first one last spring and called it the "Ernst Thaelmann Kinderheim", fittingly named for that great champion of the rights of Germany's people and their children. It is exclusively the self-assumed responsibility of the 11th Brigade. All costs are paid by the brigade and its several battalions, and the funds are supplemented by extra contributions given by individual members of that brigade. Sixty Spanish children are completely supported in the home. They receive food, clothing, bed, and education. They also receive a companionship that endeavors to be a substitute for the parents many of these children have lost.

MEMORABLE STOUT

The horrors of the war are mitigated for them, but the realities of it exist all around them. The beautiful park in which the home lies is only a few kilometers outside of Madrid, and sometimes the heavy siege guns pounding the city with futile hatred carry their thunder to the youngsters' ears. La Moraleja, which is the name of the park, has a profound sentimental value for the men of the 11th Brigade. For it was there that they came and rested and reorganized in between the bitter, fateful, early battles when Madrid's destiny



The kids line up for candy.

hung in the balance. What better shelter for innocent victims of fascism than the place hallowed by memories of the shock battalions named for "Ernst Thaelmann", "Edgar Andre", and "Commune of Paris"?

In charge of the home is a lieutenant of the brigade, who lost his right leg last winter at Guadalajara. Formerly a school master in Germany, he limps busily around the grounds and through the halls, making sure that the desires of his comrades at the front are carried out—that these adopted sons and daughters grow up strong, clear-eyed and eager-hearted. Full of the affection the children express with their every gesture, he supervises their routine with care. The age of the kids ranges from four to fourteen. Their food is good, their sleep is long, their clothes are clean, their bodies are healthy from sun, air,

exercise and hygiene. Needless to say, their schooling is sound, thorough and broad — in accordance with the new educational norms of the People's Front Government which is making Spain's school system one of the most progressive and scientific in all Europe.

COLLECTIVE WORK

This transformation of La Moraleja, once the palatial summer retreat of the immensely wealthy Marquesa Maria de Cubas-Herise, is symbolical of the democratic uses to which the former citadels of privilege are being put. One of the most basic and fundamental purposes the International Brigades are fighting for as part of the Spanish People's Army is brought out in the fact that the staff of the home is fully collectivized. Cooks, gardeners, teachers, laundresses, they all share in the responsibility of protecting the welfare of the sixty children. The contrast is sharpest in the case of several of these same workers once employed by the expropriated lords and masters of the estate. What they previously did as humble servants of the haughty rich, they now perform as fellow-workers and friends of the little ones who need them.

The head teacher is a Spanish girl, mother of two children in the home, whose husband was killed in action at Carabanchel in November 1936. She feels a bond with the 15th Brigade, for her brother lost his life last February as a member of one of our battalions. Another brother had been killed in the street-fighting of 1934. She is a trained teacher, giving her pu-



Comrade Louis, wounded Director of the Home, taking a walk with some of the children.

pils lessons in various subjects. But perhaps the chief lesson she teaches by sheer force of example; it is courage.

KIDS LEARN COURAGE

And the children learn courage. They learn numerous things -- from music to arithmetic. They can sing the songs of their native provinces, and are familiar with the folk chants of Bavaria, the home of their supervisor. The older ones assist in the accounting and keeping of records, for income and expenditure are both considerable. Their talents are evoked



LA MORALESIA

by individual attention, and the results in drawing, designing the wall newspaper, gardening and sewing are extremely gratifying. Their lives are filled with truth and culture and as much happiness as orphans and lost waifs can know. Thus their courage grows deep, and they do not forget the enemies who have brought them disaster.

One boy of twelve is determined to be an aviator. The fascists bombed his "pueblo" out of existence, and he wants the power of a plane in his hands to revenge his father and mother slain in the raid. Another plans to be a tank driver. To him a tank is the ma-



"It's going to be cold this winter, boys. Let's start a bonfire."

ximum instrument of terror. He saw several bearing down on his village in one of the early battles near Madrid, saw the destruction they grind out, and wants to turn the tables on the enemy.

Among the girls the ambitions also vary. Most of them obey the natural impulse of hoping to become nurses. A few want to be teachers. One of them who has developed a distinct artistic talent is eager to paint propaganda posters.

Meanwhile they dance and sing and grow up. Visitors come to them from many places. Government officials, Spanish newspapermen, foreign delegations, people from the vicinity -- they come from different points of view and for different purposes. They all share the same feeling of gratification at the happy life these children lead under the guidance of their International father-friends. Such visits are always welcome and stimulating to the young hosts. But they reserve their greatest enthusiasm for the members of what they call their own brigade. A spontaneous storm of greeting and affection is given to them whether they arrive individually or in groups.

Many 11th Brigade soldiers spend part of their leave at La Moraleja. They insist upon it, and arrangements have been made to accommodate them. Wounded men in hospitals in or near Madrid demand the same right to enjoy the intimate company of their adopted children. Almost without exception, these men leave a substantial donation for the home on their departure. Perhaps that is why there is such a comfortable balance in the bank, sufficient to cover not only the normal needs but emergencies if they should arise.

Luigi Gallo, Commissar Inspector of the International Brigades, paid a visit to the home recently. His words there explain the motives of the men who established this haven. "The International comrades", he said, "are mostly married men, who have left behind in other countries children like these. Here, in Spain, they feel as if they belong to the country, because it is defending the liberty of all countries. They therefore want to do for the Spanish children what they cannot, for the time being, do for their own. They love and care for the Spanish children, because in them their thoughts of others far away are embodied."

M. M.

CABINET MEMBERS

The "Gazette" of December 11, 1937, announced the following change in the Cabinet:

Don Mariano Anso has been appointed Minister of Justice. He is a member of the Left Republican Party, which now has two representatives in the Cabinet.

Señor Irujo, the retiring Minister of Justice, remains in the Cabinet as Minister without Portfolio. He is a Basque Nationalist.

The Cabinet is now composed as follows:

Prime Minister, Finance, Economy:

DR. JUAN NEGRIN.....(Socialist.)

Foreign Affairs:

DR. JOSE GIRAL.....(Left Republican.)

National Defence:

INDALECIO PRIETO.....(Socialist.)

Justice:

MARIANO ANSO.....(Left Republican.)

Interior:

JULIAN ZUGAZOITIA.....(Socialist.)

Education and Health:

JESUS HERNANDEZ.....(Communist.)

Agriculture:

VICENTE URIBE.....(Communist.)

Communications, Transport and Public Works:

BERNARDO G. DE LOS RIOS.....(Republican Union.)

Labor and Social Welfare:

DR. JAIME AYGUADE.....(Catalan Left.)

Minister without Portfolio:

MANUEL IRUJO.....(Basque Nationalist.)

MARIANO ANSO

Mariano Anso, the new Minister of Justice, was born in Pamplona on January 21, 1899.

He was elected for the first time in the civic elections of April 12, 1931, which brought about the fall of the monarchy, and became the first Republican mayor of Pamplona.

He was elected deputy for Navarre to the Cortes Constituyentes. He was secretary of the Cortes for two years.

Previously he had been im-

posed under the dictatorship of General Berenguer for leading the republican uprising in Navarre in December 1930. (This was simultaneous with the declaration of the Republic in Jaca by Galan and Hernández.)

In February 1937 he was elected deputy for the province of Guipúzcoa. He is a member of the Left Republican Party.

When the Negrin Cabinet was formed in May 1937 he became Under-Secretary for Justice and now he becomes Minister of the same department.



Girls making warm clothes for the soldiers at the front.

HOT SPOT IN QUINTO

Taking a town is no joke, even when you have as good as got it. Fighting up the streets is the most nerve-racking stage of an offensive. Every window is a potential danger-point.

Comrade G. tells the following story of the taking of Quinto. The main defence lines of the village had been penetrated and a temporary Headquarters established in one of the outlying blockhouses, when an officer came hurriedly in to report that he had found some abandoned fascist camions. A camion is a valuable acquisition. Comrade G. and a few men went out with him to get the trucks driven in.

They arrived too late. Another Brigade had established the nine points of possession, and there was no arguing. Instead, they went in search of others. It was a dan-



On the look-out.

gerous expedition; there were fascists in the village still, but nobody knew where they were. A noise behind a door was enough to make them throw a bomb into the house and blow the inside of it out.

At sight of a camion standing by a crossing, the two leaders ran towards it shouting, with bombs in their hands. They had a few yards to go when machine-guns opened up on them, and G.'s companion fell with a bullet through his head. G. jumped over his body and dashed into a yard that opened off the road. The rest of the party squeezed into doorways and recesses down the street. Fire from two machine-guns crossed, and chipped the walls on either side.

G. now found himself in a difficult position. The yard was overlooked by windows of which he knew too little to trust. On one side was the debris of a half-ruined building; facing it, a house that had escaped the shells. The doors of this house stood open;

G. could see into the nearer rooms. He observed a table with cloth and crockery; a calendar on the wall; furniture and objects casually placed, as if the house had been left by its occupants a few minutes before. A door led into a side room. In G.'s own words, darkness looked out of it. Something more formidable might be looking out of the darkness.

Under circumstances like these, small objects impress themselves strangely on the mind, and minutes seem to stand still. There was no movement in the house; the only living thing was G.'s own fancy of death watching him. The more he stared in, the nearer this fancy seemed to come. He feared the stillness more than anything. Steps led down to a cellar. G. already knew something about the underground communications of Quinto, which linked the cellars in a subterranean network. At any minute, for all G. could know, someone might jump up from those steps.

He crouched under the wall of the house and called to the men who were sheltering down the street to get a tank up. A tank could clear out the machine-guns. Meanwhile he asked them to talk to him. It kept up his spirit. They called across to him every few minutes. He hardly dare answer them, in case his voice should attract someone's attention. He found some tobacco dust in his pocket, and made a cigarette. It smoked with difficulty and had a bad taste. He threw it away.

The tank arrived. Unable to turn, it had backed up the street, and now jammed itself against the wall so that it could move neither way. Its gun roared in the narrow space, but the machine-guns continued to reply. Every shot from the tank shook pieces down from the wall beneath which he was sheltering. He picked up the end of his cigarette and tried it again. He crouched there, he said, for two or three hours.

At length he decided he would have to risk everything and get out of this trap. The ruined house seemed to offer him his best chance. He began crawling over the debris on his stomach, moving very slowly with a sharp eye on the staring windows.

Something beside him went off with a roar that seemed louder than the loudest aerial bomb. He froze against the rubble, knowing nothing, mind and body dead. He had startled a cat, which jumped

WINGS OVERHEAD

Over Brunete came the sound
Of black wings crawling up the sky;
The soldier crouched against the ground
With straining limbs till they went by.
He heard the bombs sing down the air,
He felt them land, and everywhere
The earth in an advancing line
Rose up. The soldier said "This time".
This time he laughed at what he said,
And stretched his body to the heat;
The sun alone was overhead
And warmed the terror out of it.

Now, when the thin December gleam
Is driven off the sky by snow
And breath hangs in the air like steam,
The soldier on the plain below
Hears the familiar song of hate
And stoops behind the parapet.
When the black wings have passed beyond
He pulls his blanket closer round,
Grins at the younger man, who tries
To catch his courage from his eyes.
"We'll bring them all down bye and bye,
And then", he says, "they'll never come."
The young man, looking at the sky,
Sees only white wings of the storm.

M. TOMALIN

up beside him and scattered away over the loose pieces. In the relief of discovering this he slid quickly down to the ground on the other side of the pile, to find himself facing a man with a rifle levelled straight at his head.

"Comrade!" he shouted, "Don't shoot don't shoot!"

The man stood motionless. G. could feel the aim of the gun in the middle of his forehead. Seconds stretched to hours. The man might have been made of stone.

The gun was not lowered until G. was standing beside the man who held it, and had his hands on his shoulders, telling him that he was a friend, that he knew this comrade and that one (he pointed to them) by name.

Once he knew the man understood him, the world changed for Comrade G. He was not out of danger, but he had found a friend.



Chicago Correspondent Expelled by the Nazis Speaks Of I. B. in Paris

The International Brigades have never consisted of more than 15,000 men, while Italian troops sent to Franco number around 120,000, according to Edgar A. Mowrer, noted foreign correspondent of the "Chicago Daily News", who was expelled from Hitler Germany for telling the truth. He has personally verified these figures. Other observers agree with their accuracy, he said.

Moreover, he said, the Internationals are genuine volunteers—every single one—who fight for Republican Spain because of their ideals and feelings. They were not subjected to any other influence in coming to Spain.

Speaking recently at the Home of American Students in Paris, Mr. Mowrer also said that victory for the rebels is an absolute impossibility. But if it were, France would be gravely menaced. With an enemy government at the Pyrenees, France would have to consider seriously the withdrawal of her promises to assist Czecho-Slovakia.

SPAIN'S SECOND WINTER AT WAR

(Excerpts from an article in "Pravda" by M. Koltzov.)

The rearguard of Republican Spain is fully capable of sustaining its army and of continuing to do so during the entire winter and beyond that. The only thing needed to accomplish this is organization and unity among all anti-fascists.

The agricultural season has produced a harvest superior to that of the preceding year in almost all crops. Livestock, however, has been used up in great quantities. But to balance the situation, the breeding of poultry and rabbits has been greatly augmented. This

For months there has been discussion of a plan to create a central purchasing agency for the syndicates. It is not yet in existence. Meanwhile, syndicates, mills and even individual merchants send agents into the rural districts to make purchases for them. They do so without a controlling plan. From this arises the enormous difference in prices. In Valencia, for example, the prices for meat and vegetables are higher than in Madrid. Supplying foodstuffs to Madrid is much more difficult, but the people there buy with greater care and do not tolerate speculation.

FARMERS AIDED

Wheat and flour prices have increased 35 to 40 percent since the beginning of the war. Nevertheless, the former prices for baked bread have been maintained in the cities. This is a basic consideration by the workers, and the Government has accordingly granted a special subsidy for the purpose.

The Minister of Agriculture has extended all possible assistance to the farmers during the whole course of the war. He has apportioned credits of tens of millions of pesetas in order to secure for Republican Spain an increase of cultivated land. He has proceeded also to cancel arrears of debts and taxes.

In the villages, even in those situated in the war zone, the farmers have a perfect understanding of what they have won in their fight against the fascists and reactionary landlords. They lack many things, of course, particularly sugar, gasoline and tobacco. But they eat well, feel responsible for large areas of land, and no longer bend the knee to an arrogant master or brutal overseer. They are conscious of the part they are playing in the war, they are enabling the cities to do their work, they cultivate their fields and constantly increase their ploughing.

NEW ACHIEVEMENTS

Precisely the opposite is taking place in the region dominated by the fascists. There the farmers neglect their fields, often doing so purposely.

The working class of the cities has suffered more than the farmers and this winter will continue

to bear a greater burden of the war. The workers faced the first attacks of fascism, resisting heroically on the barricades of Madrid and Barcelona. The workers fight in the vanguard of the Republican Army; workers also are forging victory in the rear. It is difficult to overestimate the success achieved by the Spanish workers in these past months. In spite of privations and in spite of frequent acts of bureaucracy and sabotage on the part of government and trade union officials, the workers have proved that they possess great patience and tenacity, immense enthusiasm in their labor and plenty of initiative and ingenuity. The attitude of the workers is the chief reason for the great growth of Spain's war industry, which in spite of all its defects, works better every day.

Some of its achievements cannot be praised too highly. These include the manufacture of pursuit planes of the most modern type, together with the motor; the production of automatic machine

guns, a job which was organized in three months; the manufacture of complicated projectors for anti-aircraft defense; the output of rapid-fire automatic weapons. The fact that tens of thousands of artillery projectiles have been produced daily in improvised factories must receive special mention.

The workers of Spain, with the working class in the lead, are ready and willing to continue fighting for all they are entitled to have. The only thing they need for victory is good organization, order and discipline.

College Girls Boycott Japanese Goods

The College of New Rochelle, conducted by Catholic Ursuline nuns, is boycotting Japanese-made silk stocking. The student body consists of 734 young American women of Catholic faith, and many are already wearing cotton or coarse-weave hosiery. The boycott was initiated by the Peace Club of the college.



increase in the future meat supply is to be found not only in the country, but also in the large cities, especially Valencia. Chicken coops are seen on the roofs and balconies of almost every house.

NEED ORGANIZATION

Generally speaking, the farms of Spain, aided only by partial importation of wheat and meat, are prepared to supply food to the army, the working class and the city populations as a whole. It should be borne in mind, also, that the farmers and their families themselves are better fed today than formerly.

The chief need is for good organization, but that does not yet fully exist. The delivery of provisions is made in the rural villages without any method. The Government pursues a just and careful policy in all matters concerning the farmers. It defends their interests strictly, and prohibits every kind of levy and monopoly. But the organizations of the large cities have not yet learned the best way to handle the farmer's produce.



Madrid, completely fortified against the fascist aggressors.

XIV BRIGADE CELEBRATES YEAR UNDER FIRE

With formal ceremony the 14th International Brigade celebrated the anniversary of its baptism under fire. One year ago, on December 23, the brigade went into action for the first time, fighting at Lopera and successfully detaining the fascist advance toward Jaen, key city on the Cordoba front. Since then the brigade has made its fame secure at Guadalajara, Jarama, Cuesta de la Reina and other vital battle fields.

The victory at Teruel, which coincides with the anniversary, was featured and emphasized. Luigi Gallo, commissar inspector of the International Brigades, said "We made a promise to stop the fascists. That promise has been kept. Today we can also rejoice over Teruel, which proves that the fascists cannot win".

With pride and significance it was pointed out that the conquest of Teruel had been achieved by all-Spanish brigades. The International volunteers had not been called upon to aid in the whole series of fascist-crushing operations. Colonel Dumont, commander of the 14th Brigade since the beginning, said "We are here, representing the workers of France. It has been our honor to fight for a year at the side of the Spanish people, and to continue fighting until fascism is exterminated from their land. At the present moment we may feel especially glad, for in the fall of Teruel, we know that Spanish troops themselves won the victory".



XV Brigade Patrons visit International Brigade headquarters in Madrid. Photographed above is a group of F. U. E. students of the Lagasca Institute together with members of the I. B. Anglo-American delegation in Madrid. Not all of the Anglo-Americans appear in this picture; the editor of the Volunteer for Liberty who would be next to Comrade Tarancón on the lower level cut himself out of the ensemble, not because of false modesty, but in order to make room for this caption.

WHAT'S IN A BEARD?

Beards were introduced by Samson, an ingenious Easterner who put over the slogan "Hair for Strength" and made big money. Like other speculators he wrecked his career on a woman and ended his life in an orgy of sordid suicide.

The superstition still survives. There has been a recent outbreak of it among the International Brigades, and many volunteers are now suffering from a rash of hair to the chin. This is due to lack of proper precautions in the early stages. It would not have happened if they had carried razors in their packs, for application as soon as the first symptoms appeared.

The epidemic has already got a strong hold, and the results are to be deplored. When the chin is attacked by a beard, it gradually disappears and is followed by the upper lip and cheekbones. In time the victim becomes unrecognizable.

As the disease advances, it becomes increasingly difficult to insert food into the mouth, owing to the invisibility of the orifice. It is a pathetic sight to see men struggling through the follicles with food in their spoons, unable to maintain their sense of direction. Much of the food is lost on the way, and tends to attract hyenas and other animals that eat

what is left behind by larger beasts of prey.

A rumour has been put about that the Ministry of Fortifications is encouraging the growth of beards. This rumoring is the work of provocateurs. If it were possible to grow metal on the chin, there might be some advantage in every man carrying his own barbed wire entanglement into action. As it is, it can be of no service, and is liable to trip him up.

By the time he has as much hair on the bottom of his head as on the top, a few bombardments are enough to make him forget which end is which. Some volunteers even reach the stage when they carry as heavy a load on their chests as over their shoulders, with the result that they lose their sense of back and front, and advance backwards instead of forwards. Nor can they grumble if a fit of the blues goes to the beard and makes them unpopular with the women.

The fight to exterminate this disease is likely to be long and arduous. Since the days of Samson, the beard complex has sunk deep in the human psyche. The human psyche is a dreadful thing. It is pronounced "pizitch" and lies somewhere between reality and delirium tremens. Once the beard reaches the bottom of that, the case is hopeless.

STEPS ARE TAKEN TO FREE AMERICANS FROM FRANCO JAILS

Twenty-four American comrades are prisoners in the hands of the fascists. Most of them were captured last February during the Jarama battles. The others were taken in later actions. Their fate is unknown, but there is reason to believe that they are alive behind fascist lines. Congressmen Jerry J. O'Connell of Montana and John T. Bernard of Minnesota have introduced a bill requesting the State Department to investigate the actual situation of these imprisoned American comrades.

While action now depends upon legislative and diplomatic proceedings, it is recalled that members of the British Battalion, taken prisoner in early February, were subsequently released and repatriated over the fascist part of the border. Among the American prisoners are the following comrades: Edward Freed, Louis Ornitz, George Leap, Walter Grant, Leo Targoff, William Parks, William Hathaway, Everett Hobbs, Bernard Cohen, Steve Dabelko, Donald A. Boynton, Albert Rosenberg, Henry Lyons, Leo Turner, George Stark, Manuel Lizairago and Dino Neri. The homes of their families are in all parts of the United States.

IRISH LABOR STEPS AHEAD IN U. S.

The recent election, on the American Labor Party ticket, of Michael Quill as Councilman for the Bronx, marks a new phase in the history of the Irish in the United States. Hitherto Irish exiles, unskilled workers in the main,

have been dominated by Tammany Hall, which could always depend on their vote, giving in return minor favors and concessions to reactionary Irish and Irish-American leaders. To Quill and other workers goes the credit for smashing the grip of Tammany. Organizing among the rank and file of transport workers, they formed the Transport Workers' Union, countering all the legal and extralegal intimidation of the bosses, until, this spring, they won not only recognition of their union, but better working-hours and better pay. John L. Lewis, chairman of the C. I. O. with which the union is affiliated, was present at the historic conference at which the bosses admitted defeat.

Quill, still limping from a bullet-wound received during the Anglo-Irish War, is a foremost supporter of the Spanish people in their struggle against fascism. He is a sturdy young Irishman, typical of the Irish Republican and Labor movement.

COLLECTIVES TO SHARE EXTRA PROFITS

The Official Gazette of the Catalan Government on November 21, 1937 published a decree of Juan Comorera, Counsellor of Economy, regulating the distribution of the excess profits of collectivized industries.

These profits shall be distributed as follows:

- a) 50 % shall go to the Bank of Industrial Credit of Catalonia.
- b) 15 % shall be devoted to social needs of a collective nature.
- c) 15 % shall be placed at the disposal of the workers who shall decide its destination at a general assembly.
- d) The remaining 20 % shall be kept as a reserve fund or shall be devoted to improvements, renewal of machinery, etc., in the proportion agreed upon by the general assembly.

The decree is dated November 17, 1937.



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December 21

The fall of Teruel on the afternoon of December 21 was the climax of operations which the Republican Army had been carrying out for just a week. The Army of the Levante took the rebels completely by surprise when it launched an attack on the morning of December 15. Day by day, it executed the plans of the general staff like clockwork.

1st Ten hours

Most dramatic of all, perhaps, were the operations during the first day when, in the bare space of the available ten hours of daylight, the two columns entrusted with making the pincers movement simultaneously from the north-east and south-west, established contact with each other midway between Campillo and Concud. This movement, which enclosed the rebels in a circle of



T E R U E L

iron, practically sealed the fate of Teruel.

The planning of the operations was no less brilliant than the way in which they were carried out. Fortified by the most skillful German military engineers, Teruel was thought to be virtually impregnable. Yet the Republi-

can Army completed the whole series of operations with far fewer casualties than in any previous large-scale attack. The secret of this success was the fact that, with the exception of Concud, none of the strongly fortified rebel positions were attacked from the front. The Republican com-

mand singled out all the weak spots in the insurgent line of defense and drove wedges deep into the enemy's rear. Thus isolated, the strongholds of the enemy fell with little resistance when attacked from behind.

Working in this way during the seven days of the offensive, position after position fell into the hands of the Republicans, while the ring of insurgent territory around the city grew smaller and smaller. At last there remained nothing but Teruel itself and two heights, Santa Barbara and El Mansueto, immediately east of the city. The final operation consisted of cutting between Teruel and these positions. The city was entered simultaneously by Repu-



André Marty

Returns to Spain

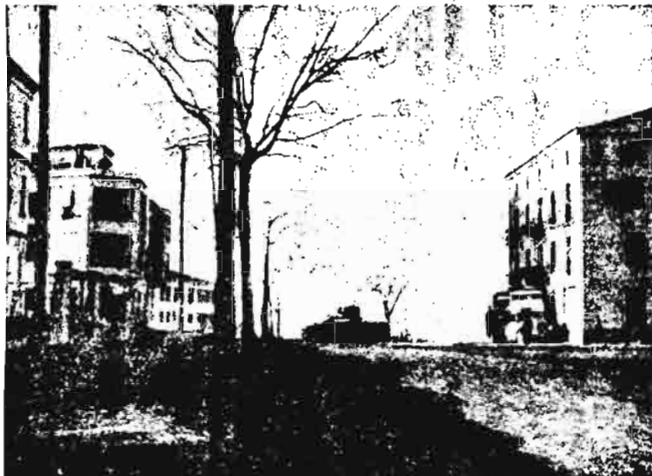
André Marty, member of the French Chamber of Deputies and the man who was the driving force in organizing the International Brigades, has returned to Spain. His arrival in Madrid was made the occasion of a celebration by the Commissariat of the International Brigades, attended by leading figures of the army and civil government.

Pointing to the impregnability of Madrid and the victory at Teruel, Comrade Marty said the working class of the world feels justified in its unswerving faith in Spain. In France, particularly, the people are concentrating on increased aid in the anti-fascist struggle. "It shows itself in many ways", he said. "The port workers of Le Havre and Marseilles and the metal workers impose dues upon themselves daily to raise funds for various needs among the Spanish people." The same firm and growing support is found in all countries, he

explained. "The policy of non-intervention", Comrade Marty said, "becomes plainer every day to the large masses in the democratic nations as a policy of intervention in favor of Franco. Such a thing cannot long continue."

Comrade Marty showed that whenever things are bad for Franco somebody speaks of mediation and compromise. "But Teruel", he said, "shows that the will of the people of Spain is for final victory and the crushing out of fascism, nothing less."

Addresses were also delivered by General Cardenal, representing General Miaja who was ill; Gómez Egido, representing the Mayor of Madrid; Comrade Piñuela, new political commissar of the Center Army; Ossorio Tafall, commander of the André Marty Battalion of the 14th Brigade; and Pérez Vitoria, president of the Popular Front.



OUR TANKS enter Teruel.

blican columns from the north, northwest and south.

NEW ARMY STRONG

The capture of Teruel is the culminating point of the growth, or perhaps coming of age, of the Spanish People's Army. It is the logical result of experience gained in Casa de Campo, Segovia, Brunete and Belchite. In each of these campaigns the young Republican Army displayed more strength, more agility and greater cohesion than in the preceding one. In the counter-offensives at Guadalajara and Pozoblanco this army was already capable of routing the Italian troops. It has now completed its development and has proved itself equipped to gain all its objectives in a first-class battle carried direct to the enemy. A clear indication of this is that not a single non-Spaniard participated in Teruel and that not a single reserve was brought into action.

What increases the significance of the army's conduct is the fact that it operated under weather conditions that the word "awful" does not exaggerate. A heavy blanket of snow lay everywhere and at times the wind rose to a gale that swirled the snow so thickly visibility was impossible for a more than a few feet. The cold was so constant and intense that some men actually perished in it. Minister of Defense Prieto stated "I do not believe any other troops in the world could have marched under similar conditions"

The offensive was planned and directed by Colonel Sarabia who last autumn was placed in charge of the Republican Army on the Teruel front, and by General Rojo, Chief of the General Staff.

Both these men were members of the old Spanish Army and remained loyal to the Republic. As

For moral reasons, however, Franco had no other course than to maintain Teruel, whatever the cost in men and material. For, by talking of a slash through to the coast on that front, he had boosted the name of Teruel until it was on the lips of all, both in rebel territory and abroad. He simply could not, therefore, afford to withdraw his troops and leave Teruel to the Republicans. In the same way, once Teruel was surrounded and cut off by Government forces, Franco was compelled to sacrifice thousands of his best troops in a vain effort to relieve the beleaguered city. In one attack which the finest fascist troops delivered along the plain near Concud, they formed a perfect target for Loyalist artillery on the heights and were driven back in complete disorder after losing what is conservatively esti-



NUNS and Civilians evacuated from Teruel.

soon as the Government received word of the capture of Teruel, it conferred on Sarabia the rank of General. Sarabia and Rojo, previously, are the only two men to have been promoted to generals during the present course of the war.

From a military point of view the holding of Teruel by the rebels had long been misconceived. If at first it was a dangerous salient which chance or, more accurately, the treachery of the civil guards placed in fascist hands at the very outset of the uprising, a salient which threatened to cut Loyalist communications along the Mediterranean coast, it later became a menace to the rebels themselves. This was borne out by their attempt last July to broaden the salient. It is now proved beyond all doubt by the success of this offensive.

mated at forty percent of their strength.

Besides the tremendous stimulating effect it will have on the Republican Army and rearguard, the capture of Teruel is of great strategic importance to the Government. It creates a new and shorter road to Madrid, and thus permits transfer of troops and material from the Aragon front to the Madrid front or vice versa much more rapidly. The distance from Alcañiz, the central point of communications for a large part of the Aragon front, to Madrid is 70 miles shorter via Teruel than via Valencia, and 85 miles shorter from Alcañiz to Guadalajara. It also constitutes the point of an axis along which new major offensives can be developed.

The capture of Teruel and its surrounding area leaves the Republic with a gain of hundreds of square miles of territory, rich in coal and iron so necessary for the expansion of the war industries, as well as with one of the best timber regions of Spain.

Numerous insurgent prisoners were captured the first day and more were taken each succeeding day and night. Many deserted to Loyalist lines, including whole companies in some instances. They have been conveyed by the hundreds from Teruel to Sagunto and Valencia. So rapid was the onslaught and operation against the city that barely a fascist soldier escaped to fight again another day. And the entire large store of arms and ammunition which the rebels had accumulated there is now in the hands of the Government.

There is no doubt that Franco must make ferocious efforts to retrieve his disaster. Come what may, the victory at Teruel has permanent significance.



STREET-FIGHTING in Teruel.

DELBOS COMPLETES TOUR OF EUROPEAN NATIONS

French Foreign Minister Finds that the Mass of People of Europe Prefer Democracy and Call for the Defeat of Fascism. Steps are Taken to Boycott Japanese-made Goods.

M. Delbos, French Foreign Minister, has been round Europe. His journey, rather than a triumphal progress, might be described as an inspection of the wreckage. In Poland, Rumania and Jugoslavia he had the opportunity of seeing the damage that France's friendships have suffered. All three countries have turned towards the probable aggressors and are seeking assurances from them in return, naturally, for concessions. The Four-Power Pact, the failure to take a firm stand when Hitler marched into the Rhineland, the sabotage of sanctions in the Abyssinian War, the policy of Non-Intervention, etc., all this diplomacy conducted in the name of peace is now threatening France with isolation and encirclement.

DEFENSE OF MINORITIES

It is not yet possible to judge whether Delbos' visit to Czechoslovakia has strengthened the resistance of that possible "Spain of tomorrow" against the threats of Hitler and his agents. It would be well if the rights of national minorities were always respected, but in any case Hitler's qualifications to be considered their champion are slight enough. There was once a great uproar about the German minority in Poland, until one fine day Poland's policy became pro-Nazi and the matter was closed. Nor do we hear much about the oppressed German minority in the Italian Tyrol; and if a Hitlerite took over the Government of Czechoslovakia and helped to open the way to Nazism's supremacy in Europe, then the pressing question of the German minority in Czechoslovakia would also be "closed".

NOT THE PEOPLE

M. Delbos might learn two lessons from his journey: the first—that wavering, compromise and retreat are not identical terms with peace and collective security; the second—that although the governments of Poland, Rumania and Jugoslavia have ceased to count the League of Nations and their agreements with France as the main factors in their foreign pol-

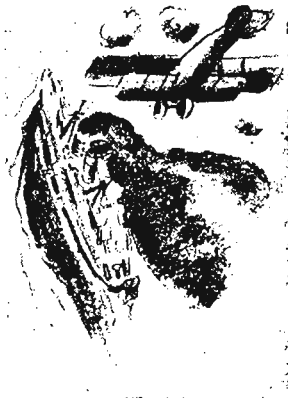
icy, nevertheless those Governments do not have the people behind them. The Polish people demands a reversal of the policy of the fascist ruling clique in Warsaw. In Rumania the pro-fascist policy of Carol and his Prime Minister, Tartarescu, has been defeated at the elections. It remains to be seen whether Carol can foist on the Rumanian people a new Hitlerite Government in which the dominant party only secured 10 % of the votes cast. In Jugoslavia Delbos was greeted with shouts of "Long live democratic France! Down with fascism!"

This is the force which can be mobilised behind the policy of peace, irrespective of the wishes of the Becks, the Carols, etc. It is a force which can still be irresistible if the democracies end the policy of capitulation and give more than kind words to collective security.

BOYCOTT PRACTICAL

World indignation against the Japanese crime in China is still increasing, and with it the possibilities of a large scale boycott of Japanese goods. The World Peace Assembly has taken the decision to organise a boycott beginning January 1.

The distribution of Japanese trade is such that an effective boycott is possible. *L'Humanité* has pointed out that Japanese troop movements are made with



JAPANESE AVIATION sweeps down on the "Panay", bombing it. The sinking of this American ship has caused great indignation in democratic countries of the world.



CHINESE women-students in a military school. These women want military training, so that they too can pitch in to help their country to defeat the Japanese invaders.

American trucks. Japanese bullets are made with American lead. The petrol for Japan's planes comes from Dutch and American sources. The cotton which is essential for her war industry is provided by India and the United States. She obtains coal from Indo-China. Her nickel comes from Norway and Britain. She receives machine tools from France. According to figures published by the World Peace Assembly and based on League of Nations statistics and reports of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the United States, India, Great Britain and France take 38.9 % of Japanese exports and provide 47.6 % of her imports. 40.5 % of the total tonnage of ships passing through the Japanese customs consists of non-Japanese vessels, and about a third of them are British.

From these figures it is clear that a determined boycott by the democracies could force Japan to leave her prey and seek peace.

During five months' fighting Japan has achieved no decisive results. It is true that her forces have penetrated far into Chinese territory, but they have not been able to break a Chinese Army which is still in process of mobilisation and is growing stronger. Vast sums are being swallowed up in the war. A fierce partisan struggle is being waged in Manchuria. The unrest of the Japanese people is reflected in the mass arrests which are being carried out.

An indication of what could be achieved by firm action is provided by the sequel to the sinking of the "Panay". The United States now has an apology, the promise of an indemnity and the dismissal of a Japanese officer. This is a

distinct toning down in the "I care for nobody, no not I!" attitude adopted by Japan in the earlier stages. Whether or not the apology, the indemnity and the dismissal satisfy Washington, they will certainly not satisfy the people of America who are awakening to the danger of Japanese aggression in the Far East and for whom Roosevelt's Chicago speech, the call to world democracy to close the ranks, means more than just words.

TERUEL

The taking of Teruel is a smashing victory for the Republic on the Spanish Front and no less on the international front. The intense reactionary campaign advocating compromise or representing Franco as certain of success in a hypothetical forthcoming offensive, had not been without its effects in some democratic and working-class circles, where a mood of pessimism had set in. In Britain Major Attlee's confident statements on his return from Spain had already done much to dispel the gloom, and now his statements have been backed by the deeds of the Republican Army. On the other hand there has again been a big discrepancy between fascism's words and deeds this time a very welcome discrepancy.

No one imagines that with Teruel fascism in Spain is finished. We all know that there are difficult times and heavy battles ahead but we know, too, that in the coming events each their share will be before.

A. V. L.



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VICTORY AT TERUEL

Honor and glory to our Spanish comrades of the Republican Army! They have proved at Teruel what we have always argued on their behalf; given time to organise and train themselves, they are second to none as front-line soldiers. At Teruel, taking the offensive in adverse climatic conditions and against strongly fortified posts, they routed Italian, German and Moroccan regulars. In the annals not only of Spanish but of European military history that is an achievement, for which it is hard to find a parallel.

Here then are some of the fruits of our coming to Spain! We held the lines for months on end, giving a breathing-space for the organisation of the Republican Army. How well that interval has been availed of, the victorious heroes of Teruel are witness!

But when our Spanish comrades can win victories without our aid it does not follow that our task in Spain is finished. On the other side of the enemy lines are Germans, Italians, Portuguese—international fascist invaders. So, on our side of the lines must remain the fighters of the international working-class.

For this is no national civil war in which we fight from abstract motives of idealism. This is an international war between fascism and democracy. Fascism has rallied all its available men and munitions; the working class, vanguard in defense of democracy, must do likewise.

While the war continues — and continue it must until Democracy triumphs — it is the duty of the international working-class to aid their gallant Spanish comrades. That duty we of the International Brigades have fulfilled in the past year. Let us fulfill it in ever-increasing measure in the year of victory now dawning.

FRIENDSHIP

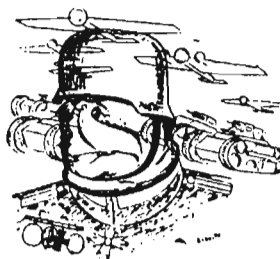
Last November, the Popular Front organised a week of homage to the International Brigades, commemorating the anniversary of the defense of Madrid. So warm was Spain's gratitude that the unexpected sum of 270,000 pesetas was subscribed. This money could be used for whatever the volunteers saw fit.

Now they have given their answer, characteristically and fittingly. For the Spanish soldiers throughout the entire Republican Army, 150,000 pesetas is presented for additional comforts to their winter welfare. In this way the International volunteers express their comradeship even to those Spanish brigades with whom we have not yet served side by side.

The rest of the money will be devoted by the International Brigades commissariat to cultural work in our own ranks, and to caring for the sons and daughters of Spanish members of our various units. Doing this work of peace before victory is finally ours is a signal to Spain and to the world that we are confident it will be ours.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Abd-el-Jalek Torres, Moroccan youth leader, officer in a Moorish brigade, supporter of Franco since the beginning, has been sentenced to jail... Latest figures on Italian trade balance have been juggled



around but cannot hide the enormous deficit of 3,350 million liras between imports and exports. The preceding year's deficit was only 572 million liras, which is also plenty... Hans Drick, Nazi "volunteer" and athlete, winner of the pentathlon at the Berlin Olympics, lost out the other day in a Madrid sector. He will be buried in Germany... Flash! Any day now the world will be astounded by the announcement of a Society of Nations to rival the well-known League of Nations which, it will be recalled, was supposed to perpetuate peace. Whether headquarters are to be at Nuremberg or Munich will be decided by tossing a Banco de Franco peseta... Just in case you're not quite sure, Japan has not yet declared war on China... Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck are banned from movie screens in Yugoslavia as being "anti-monarchist" and also "rebellious". Don't you think so?... General Ludendorff cashed in the other day. He invented totalitarian warfare, but died in bed. He opposed Hitler's intervention in Spain as being small fry. The old boy was always nice to us. When he helped Hindenburg crush the Czarist army, he practically started the October Revolution... The figures are official that the Moors

in Spain from the Anyera district of Morocco have had 368 dead and 830 wounded. The figures are official... A fascist soldier nabbed at Teruel cried, "Let me pray before you kill me." After he was given a chance to pray he was also given a meal, a trip to the rear, a pick and shovel and a job on the road. Was he also given a surprise?... "The long-awaited fascist offensive has begun", announced a political commissar to his men on an inactive front. "It has begun", he said, "and Teruel is ours!"... Time Magazine shows its impartiality by calling the rebels Rightists and us Leftists and tells this little tale: "The mere presence in the Balearics of Bruno Mussolini provoked so many bomb raids as Leftists tried to exterminate him, that Spanish Rightists were vastly relieved when Bomber Bruno flew back to Italy with part of his fascist squadron..." And this interesting item on the inevitable: "In



MOORS IN SPAIN

sunny Morocco, impatient wives and sweethearts of Moors fighting under Rightist Franco demonstrated at Tetuan, screaming "We want our men back", precipitated a bloody 24-hour riot put down by 130 executions..." Father Coughlin goes back on the air again. Did someone say offensive?... When Cardinal Verdier, archbishop of Paris, returned from Rome and announced the desire of the Catholic Church to collaborate with all men of good will, regardless of religious belief, the Nazi organ "Angriff" said, "The Vatican is entering common action with Moscow."



Ralph Fox and John Cornford

A year ago this week the famous No. 1 Company of British and Irish comrades went through their baptism of fire with the 14th Brigade on the Cordova front. For the International Volunteers this was undoubtedly the most difficult and most dangerous period of the war, a period when the fascists were advancing on all fronts, a period when the Loyalist forces were short of arms and had had no time for proper training.

Under these circumstances it is not surprising that in those days casualties were heavy. The first



RALPH FOX

Volunteers fought under almost unimaginably adverse conditions — conditions such as we shall never experience again in the course of the war.

Among those who died in this action there were two comrades whose deaths represented not only a great loss to the anti-fascist movement, but also a great loss to English letters. They were Ralph Fox and John Cornford.

WORLD WRITER

Ralph Fox was killed on the 3rd of January at the age of thirty-seven. He had already won a high place for himself among the leading writers of the post-war period. His influence among British intellectuals was far reaching and steadily growing, an influence directed towards drawing men of science and letters in ever closer contact with the proletarian movement.

In 1920 Ralph Fox joined the Friend's Famine Relief Expedition to the Samara region in South-East Russia to relieve the victims

of the famine which followed in the wake of the White Armies. He believed he saw in the new Russian civilisation, even in those early, troubled years, a solution to the world's political difficulties. His experiences there gave the material for his first book, "Children of the Steppes" in which he showed distinct literary ability.

Apart from his only novel "Storming Heaven", Ralph Fox concentrated all his attention on political writings. His study of "Lenin" is perhaps the best written in the English language. In addition he wrote "Class Struggles in Britain", "The Colonial Policy of British Imperialism", "France Faces the Future", and "Genghis Khan". Two books appeared posthumously, "The Novel and the People" in which he defined his view of the relation between art and politics, and "Portugal Now", a study of the conditions in Portugal at the time of the outbreak of the Spanish Rebellion.

Ralph Fox not only wrote politically, but also worked politically. As a Communist, he took his place in the workers organisations and he lived, worked and taught alongside working men. His presence in Spain was the proof of his readiness to combine practice with theory. His death was the proof that he was prepared not only to work, but to sacrifice ev-

erything for the anti-fascist struggle.

BRILLIANT POET

John Cornford, young poet and brilliant university student, met death on his twenty-first birth-



JOHN CORNFORD

day. He was the most prominent leader of the Student movement in England, and his efforts, more than those of any other single individual, helped forge unity of the Left wing student organisations.

His active life left him little time for writing, but what he did do in this respect showed considerable promise. Several of his poems, mostly of an anti-fascist character, have appeared in "Left

Review" in England and efforts are being made to collect all of his works in order to produce them in one volume.

Comrade Cornford was one of the very first International Volunteers to arrive in Spain in the late summer of 1936. He took part in the defence of Madrid and after a short return home to deal with some personal affairs he came back to take part in the action on the Cordova front where he met his death. His personality was tremendously vital, he was amazingly cool in the difficult situations during the actions in which he took part. He was a constant source of strength and inspiration to the group with which he fought. He was a great comrade and a brave soldier of Freedom.

SOME SOLDIERS ARE SO ROUGH

A raw young volunteer was receiving tuition in bomb throwing from an instructor. After everything had been carefully explained to him, he was given a live bomb and told to throw it.

He pulled out the pin and handed the bomb to his instructor, remarking:

"Well, and what do I do now?"

He was so deeply offended at the reply he received that he reported the instructor for using bad language.



GROUP OF COMRADES attached to the original English-Speaking Company of the 14th Brigade.

PEASANTS ESTABLISH NEW COLLECTIVE FARM AND POINT TO THE WAY OF SOCIAL ABUNDANCE

On July 21st, 1936, barely two days after the military uprising in Spain, the little village of Valdeganga de Cuenca received a visit from a delegation purporting to be from the capital of the province. The delegation introduced themselves to Juan Ramon Laparra, the Mayor of the village, and, after following the usual Spanish custom of talking about everything except the business they had in mind, finally announced that they had come to take

In addition the property includes one of the best known sanatoriums in the country, the mineral waters of which are famed for their cure of rheumatism. There is a large house, accommodating over 100 patients, a bath-house and a swimming pool. The sanatorium showed on the average an annual net profit of 20,000 pesetas.

Now the building has been given over to the British Medical Unit for the duration of the war for use as a convalescent home

small domestic animals) he happened to possess and provided that he became a member of one of the trade union organisations.

COLLECTIVE STARTED

The idea of collectivisation was beyond the comprehension of most of the inhabitants of Valdeganga, and even those who to some degree did understand what it involved, did not venture to throw in their lot with the collective farm. As a result of the meeting only three more families agreed to join in, who, together with the six families working the land previously, made a total of nine. Any member of the village has the right to join the collective at a later date, provided that he complies with the above mentioned conditions.

The nine families have now been working the land together since March. It has been a hard struggle, for 600 acres is a lot of land to till when one has no machines. The ploughing is done by a pair of oxen and most of the other work by mules. When I remarked on how well these animals looked, the Mayor, who is also secretary of the collective farm, said: "Yes, they look well and fat now. But they were very different when we took over. The former owners used to keep them half starved. And, indeed, it was

pesetas a year (\$15 or \$75 at the old rate of exchange). On this sum they had to support not only themselves, but also their famil-



A LITTLE refreshment after work.

ies. Many of them used to sleep in the stables with the mules, because they had no other accommodation."

GOOD HARVEST

The chief crop of the collective farm is corn, although it has many acres of potatoes and vineyard as well. There are also over 300 head of sheep and goats. In 1937 there was an abundant harvest, one of the best ever known in that part of Spain. And to cope with the situation the collective farm borrowed a reaping machine, for otherwise it would have been im-



SOWING the fields.

over the estate of the rich landowner which lay within the jurisdiction of the village and that henceforth this estate would be run by a workers' committee in Cuenca. Fortunately for Valdeganga its Mayor was a quick-witted man.

"That's all very well", he said, "you may be the bosses in Cuenca, but I am the boss in Valdeganga".

He immediately summoned the village council, who unanimously decided that no other authority than the village of Valdeganga was legally entitled to take over the estate in question. The delegation returned to Cuenca empty-handed and the estate became the property of the people of the village.

WAR HOSPITAL

The estate is, indeed, a rich one. It consists of some 600 acres of cultivated land, practically the whole of which can be irrigated, and over 5000 acres of pine woods.

for wounded from the fronts. The people of Valdeganga have thus foregone the profits of running it as a health resort and have made this their contribution to those of their fellow-countrymen who are fighting for the freedom of Spain.

The rest of the estate, however, remains in the hands of the village. During the latter part of 1936 it was run by a group of six families who had either worked on the estate in the time of the landlord or lived close by. It had no official status other than that it had been taken over by the village.

In March of 1937, however, when the policy of the Government regarding the development of collective farms had been made clear, the Mayor summoned together all the inhabitants of the village and announced to them that the estate was to be converted into a collective farm. Anyone who wanted had the right to join the collective, provided that he added to it whatever property (excluding house, furniture, kitchen garden and



PLOWING the furrows.

not only the animals they kept in this condition. It was the same with the farm laborers, too. These men had to work from dawn till dusk and they were paid 600

possible to get in all the crop. The machine, although very old-fashioned, served its purpose and worked ten times as quickly as the peasants harvesting with

sickles. The machine cut the cornfields in the floor of the valley, while on the hillsides, where the slope is steep, sickles were still in use. The peasants would sing at intervals during their work and their song would spread out across the valley to the hills beyond.

Valdeganga is a peaceful spot and there is little to interrupt the song of these happy peasants at work, happy, because for the first time in their hardworking lives, they are enjoying the fruits of their labor. Occasionally one hears the drone of a plane as it passes overhead. At such times the harvesters leave off their work and with their sickles raised in the air they wave to their heroic aviators, the story of whose bravery and skill has reached every nook and corner of Republican Spain. Twice a day refreshments



are taken out to the harvesters in the fields. Leaving their sickles embedded in a pile of sheaves, piled up on end so as to make a patch of shade in the parched cornfield, the harvesters gather in a circle for their meal. Out of the bread and the wine they make a soup, which quenches their thirst and nourishes them at the same time, while large pieces of meat are produced and eagerly devoured. Harvesting in Spain creates an appetite. Shortly after noon the harvesters return to the nearby house where their midday meal awaits them. Then, during the hottest hours of the day, they take their siesta, lying in the shade of the elms that line the front of the house. The day is a long one, from daybreak until sunset, and this rest at half-time is a necessity for all.

Harvesting by sickles is done in this collective farm by a group



of ten men. The first takes a row, while the one following behind takes the next row to the right and so forth. In this way ten men cut as many rows at once, which is about the equivalent of one small machine. Each harvester gathers his corn in armfuls as he goes along, leaving it in bundles to his left. These bundles are then collected and tied into sheaves by a group of men known as "binders".

PROFITS INVESTED

In war time, when the Government is sorely in need of all the wheat it can lay hands on, special measures have to be taken regarding the sale of the harvest. All the wheat in Republican Spain is bought up by the Government at a fixed price. Farmers, however, are entitled to keep enough wheat for their own needs and for the sowing of next year's crop.

In this collective farm there is no general distribution of profits at the end of the year. On the other hand, a fund is kept into which all the profits are paid and from which all workers over the age of fifteen receive 4 pesetas for each day they work. All general expenses of the farm, such as repairs and improvements, are also paid for out of this fund. Recently a new cart was bought, which cost 1,000 pesetas. Should the resources of the fund show any great increase, the wage of 4 pesetas a day would be raised accordingly.

But even the rate of 4 pesetas a day compares most favorably with the standard wage of 500 pesetas a year paid by the former landowners to the farm laborers. Counting an average of 300 days' work for each man, one

finds he earns 1,200 pesetas annually or more than double what he received formerly. And in addition to this sum in cash, he retains enough wheat, potatoes, meat, wine, etc., to keep himself and his family for the coming year, whereas previously he had to purchase all his food from the landowner.

BETTER LIFE

For the present only the large-scale farming has been collectivized, while such things as kitchen gardens, chickens, etc. have remained in private hands. Next season, however, collectivization will be complete. The women, for example, whose task it is to look after the minute plots of kitchen garden laid out somewhere in the neighborhood of each cottage, will next year all work together and cultivate one large plot, which can be irrigated. In this way production will be considerably increased.

The members of the Valdeganga collective farm are a hardworking but happy crowd of people. They are still poor, very poor if judged by British or American standards. But they are happy because they

know they are on their way to a richer and better life, because they are certain that henceforth they themselves, and not a rich landlord living in Madrid, will enjoy the profits accruing from what they produce by the sweat of their brow.

ARABS TRICKED BY ITALY FOR SERVICE IN SPAIN

The Gibraltar correspondent of the London "Daily Herald" reports the latest developments as to how Franco's "volunteers" offer their services. The article says:

"Mussolini has found a new way to send reinforcements to Franco without violating the letter of the non-intervention agreement. By proclaiming himself protector of Islam, the Italian dictator has sent thousands of native Arabs from Italy's North African colonies to Spain. The trick is as follows. The Italian authorities extend an invitation to Arabs of Tripoli and Lybia to board ships which, they say, will go to Morocco; there they will be able to proceed to make a pilgrimage to the sanctuary of Mouley Idris in French Morocco.

"But the pilgrims never get to the holy city of Fez, for when they reach Melilla, in Spanish Morocco, they are signed up in the Foreign Legion by fascist recruiting officers, who tempt them with the pay of five pesetas a day.

"It is calculated that in the last fortnight, seven to eight thousand Arabs have been enlisted in this manner. A secret air service has been organized to speed up transportation between Tripoli and Melilla, and between Melilla and Cadiz. This service operates daily."

GREETINGS TO PEOPLE'S ARMY

The Minister of National Defense sends a message to the Republican Army:

"In the dawning of the year 1938, I salute with the greatest warmth the Armies of land, sea and air, who are so heroically serving the people, of whom they are the innermost part. I express my profound desire for the triumph of our cause, the justice of which proclaims itself to the entire world, and I cherish the tenderest remembrance of our comrades who have succumbed in the combat. Soldiers, aviators and sailors: Salud and Victory!"

CULTURE AT THE MILL

Where the Brigade last rested, Headquarters were established in the private rooms of a riverside grainmill. The mill was under the control of the U. G. T. The men who worked there spoke of their old employer with a casual tolerance. He chose to go, it was his own affair. They might find him a job if he cared to come back.

The machine rooms were spotlessly clean. Machinery was of the latest type, and wherever possible was enclosed in polished wood. The power station generated enough current from the flow of the river to supply several surrounding villages with light. You could walk into any factory in an industrially developed city in Britain or America and see nothing that worked more smoothly or with less dust and noise.

The man who formerly owned all this was making enough money out of it to cover extensive and elaborate improvements to his private quarters. He left before they were completed. Headquarters staff ate their meals in his big living-room. He had let himself go on this room; it was lavishly baronial, but its baronialism was childish and not like the bored, cynical waste of the seeded aristocracy.

When a rich man does this sort of thing in Britain or the States, he generally makes a round of the antique-dealer's show-rooms and fills his rooms with products of the past. He may understand what he is doing, or he may not. Sometimes he orders a "period room", and commissions a decorator to fix it up.

In Spain not even the amateur baronialist needs to fall back upon past ages. Owing to the late industrial development of the country many feudal traditions long since dead in Britain overlap here into the present day, among



them the traditions of craftsmanship. In the rural districts of Spain, and even in the cities, craftsmen are still working as their predecessors worked several centuries back. When the baro-



THE FIFTEENTH BRIGADE boys getting ready to move. Sketch drawn by Comrade Henryk.

nialist calls in his craftsmen, he is as likely to get good work as bad. It is difficult to give the ex-mill-owner credit for knowing the difference between them, because the work he accepted is of uneven merit and the whole effect intolerably exaggerated.

Every visible wooden surface in this room has been heavily carved. Some of the carving is in itself very fine. Fantastic animals and foliage cover the beams of the ceiling, picked out here and there with colour. The garish vigour of these inventions recalls Gothic carvings four or five centuries old. Not only has the tradition remained, but the life is still in it.

Up in the village the peasants furnish their cottages with better taste than the rich man, though they are probably unaware of it. They plan more simply, but the same traditions are at their disposal. Here and in all the villages of Spain, pottery and woodwork in daily use is of the richest beauty. In England, such stuff exists in the homes not of the peasantry, but of a few people who have caught the enthu-

siasm of William Morris, and not all of them share his understanding of social developments and their effect upon culture.

When the Spanish Civil War has been won and the People's Front Government continues under peace-time conditions its present energetic policy of cultural development, it will have these living traditions to call upon. Under the right control the cultural legacy of feudalism can be saved from the slaughter which has nearly or entirely extinguished it in the industrially advanced countries.

Rising capitalism looks after the material conveniences of life, invents machinery and, up to a point, encourages science, but it does little for culture. In so far as the human need for ornament can be put to profit, to that extent capitalism will be interested in it. In the effort to extend its profits, it is concerned, as usual, with speed and quantity. Art is put on a mass-production basis. The craftsman's enthusiasm disappears. Ornament is created without interest or love. Deterioration is inevitable.

There has been more bad art put into the world since the beginning of the Industrial Age than in any previous period of social development. The high standard of feudal art, however, was unstable because it was largely unconscious. It was not necessary then to emphasise the differences between good art and bad, since there was no great danger of the bad crowding out the good. Nobody could have imagined then how far the standard was going to descend.

Now, however, it will be impossible not to be aware of the differences, for industrialism has established a wide margin of comparison, and the object lesson will remain in front of us as long as we need it. The task will be to make the craftsman more conscious of what he is doing, and so to put him in a position where he can not only continue his tradition but develop it, and relate it to the modern life around him. We shall see changes for the better.

A nation fully conscious of the value of culture is well armed against reaction. The people have in their hands the material for the intellectual and emotional development that is the real stuff of civilisation. While reaction is still strong and has arms of its own, the world has to fight for the elementary right to become civilised, with weapons that are forced upon it. Even so, and even under the restrictions of war, the growth of culture in Republican Spain continues. The efforts of the Government are justified by their effect on the spirit of the fighting forces. Some of us who come from countries industrially more advanced than Spain envy the Spanish people their future. With such a fine and wide-spread heritage of culture, they will prove to have a firmer foundation than ourselves when the peace-time process of civilisation begins in its full intensity.

The Brigade's mill offered a picture in miniature of Spain's transition. Old culture stood side by side with modern machinery. Signs of bad influences were there but their source was gone. The Spanish people were at work, controlling their own industry; and housed in the same building were Internationals of the army that is defending all that is best in Spain, for the sake of all that is best in the world. M. T.

PROF. HALDANE BACK IN SPAIN. WILL MAKE A SPECIAL STUDY OF BOMB-PROOF SHELTERS

J. B. S. Haldane, Science Professor at University College, London, and one of the world's outstanding authorities on gas defense, has returned to Spain. He has been here before, advising the Republican Government on precautions against gas attacks both at the front and in the rear. This time, he says, his mission is to learn from Spain the methods of protecting crowded cities aga-



PROFESSOR HALDANE

inst air raids. The elaborate measures being taken by the British Government for such contingencies have been severely criticized on the grounds that maximum attention is devoted to wealthy residential areas.

Professor Haldane is going to examine the bomb-proof concrete shelters in Madrid, Valencia, Barcelona and elsewhere which have been built for all the people exposed to danger from the air. "If I find that this is true," he said emphatically, "I am going to raise hell when I come back. What Spain can do in war time, London, Manchester, Glasgow and our other big cities can do in peace time."

LOT TO LEARN

Continuing the same theme, Professor Haldane declared his conviction that the people of Spain are doing the greatest work of the world today by beating back the fascist onslaught. "We have a lot to learn from Spain," he said. "We can learn

how a people unites to defend its rights. We can learn how an army is organized under working-class leaders. We can learn that measures of defense for women and children which the British Government says are hopelessly expensive are quite practicable in a land where lives count for more than money."

With the utmost sharpness Professor Haldane denounced the attitude and policy of the British Government toward Loyalist Spain. He spoke clearly and bitterly: "The British Government has deliberately and repeatedly broken international law in favor of fascism. And our ruling class is delighted if the fascists can also kill a few British boys who are willing to risk their lives for democracy. Yes, after all," he observed, "they might be a nuisance to their betters when they came home."

To Professor Haldane the victory of the all-Spanish troops at Teruel is especially significant for having been achieved without any assistance from the International Brigades, but he expresses keen satisfaction with their constant readiness for action. "After spending several days with the Anglo-American Brigade, Professor Haldane, who was a captain in the famous Black Watch Regiment during the World War, said of his countrymen in Spain, "The British Battalion is incomparably more efficient than a year ago. It has good rifles and machine guns, and good discipline, though not yet perfect. On the other hand, its very high morale and its experience of war make it more than the equal of any British regular army battalion."

Stamp as Tribute to U. S. A.

A Government decree last week authorized a special series of postal stamps commemorating the cordial relations that exist between the peoples of Spain and the United States.

ELEGY FOR OUR DEAD

There is a place where, wisdom won, right recorded,
men move beautifully, striding across fields
whose wheat, wind-marcelled, wanders unguarded
in unprotected places; where earth, revived, folds
all growing things closely to itself: the groves
of bursting olives, the vineyards ripe and heavy with
glowing grapes, the oranges like million suns; and graves
where lie, nurturing all these fields, my friends in death.

With them, deep in coolness, are memories of France and
the exact fields of Belgium: midnight marches in snows--
the single-file caravan high in the Pyrenees: the land
of Spain unfolded before them, dazzling the young Balboas.
This earth is enriched with Atlantic salt, spraying
the live, squinting eyelids, even now, of companions--
with towns of America, towers and mills, sun playing
always, in stone streets, wide fields--all men's dominions.

Honor in this lies: that theirs is no special
strange plot of alien earth. Men of all hands here
lie side by side, at peace now after the crucial
torture of combat, bullet and bayonet gone, fear
conquered forever. Yes, knowing it well, they were willing
despite it to clothe their vision with flesh. And their rewards,
not sought for self, live in new faces, smiling,
remembering what they did here. Deeds were their final words.

E. B.

Madrid, September 1937.

A CHINESE SOLDIER

My Chinese friend and I were sitting and smiling at each other in the culture room of the hospital when the radio began broadcasting in English. I listened for a moment and then turned to him. "Nanking", I said, "has fallen".

He nodded courteously, as always, but his pleasant face did not change expression. He continued to smile, his nearly mahogany skin creasing around his narrow little friendly eyes.

I felt almost hurt at his indifference. Could he remain unconcerned at the fall of his country's capital to the murderous Japanese invaders? "Is it nothing?" I asked. We speak to each other in Spanish which neither of us know very well. Perhaps that was the reason I grasped his answer slowly.

He said, "The floods cover many fields, but the farmers continue to plant seeds and tend the trees".

After a while he rose and limped away. He got a bullet in the leg at Cuesta de la Reina some weeks ago with the French 14th

Brigade, and just recently began to walk. He has to use a cane. As his stocky figure began ascending the stairs to the room in which he sleeps, a little Spanish nurse flew to help him. His smile was the same as ever, but he refused. For perhaps a full minute it was a duel between two kinds of graciousness. Finally, reluctantly, she permitted him to go.

He started up the stairs, the cane in his right hand, the banister in his left. He went very slowly. But he never faltered. The friendly little altercation with the nurse had aroused the attention of all in the room. Everybody had raised his head from book or domino game. There were Germans, Poles, Americans, Frenchmen, Roumanians, Swedes and Spaniards. They did not take their eyes from him.

And thus, with all the world watching to see if he could do it, a wounded Chinese comrade slowly climbed the stairs to the very top.

M. M.

From the Madrid F. U. E. to All Students In the International Brigades

The University and Student Federation (F. U. E.) of Madrid is anxious to achieve closer comradeship with the students fighting in the International Brigades, and appeals to them to get in touch as soon as possible with the headquarters of the Madrid F. U. E., Calle de San Bernardino, 14.

The Madrid students are proud to regard their international comrades as honorary members of the F. U. E. H. They are deeply moved by the sacrifice and heroism of these comrades in the war in Spain, and they want to express their gratitude in some way. They want to establish close and friendly relations with them and show them that they are living in a brother country which regards them as its finest sons.

For this reason the Madrid F. U. E. wishes to get in touch with these comrades so as to offer them our assistance and do everything in our power to help them.

At the Madrid Students' Club, the students of the International Brigades who are on leave in our capital will shortly have the opportunity to devote their leisure moments to educational and cultural work which will bring the Spanish and international students closer and closer together.

We wish to establish relationships of a permanent character not only with the foreign comrades who are fighting in Spain but also with the students and the student organizations of all countries, so as to build up, day by day, the mass student movement of unity against fascism and in defence of peace, liberty and culture.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE F. U. E.
OF MADRID

December 23, 1937.

Italians Still Meet With Armed Hostility From Ethiopians

Mussolini seeks new victims for his aggressions, but he cannot seem to make a real job of the conquests he so triumphantly proclaims to Italy. Ethiopia, for example, is far from being as fully subjugated as the Italian war machine, rolling over unarmed native troops, expected it would be by now. Reports filter through the rigorous censorship and all bring the same news. Italian difficulties in Ethiopia are steadily increasing.

The London "Times" is the reliable source indicating Mussolini's latest worries in the conquered territory. Essential supplies are quite scarce, and gasoline and other imported raw materials are subjected to the strictest rationing. Viceroy Graziani was forced to issue a decree to that effect. Cars and trucks may be used only in cases of absolute necessity.

MERCHANTS UNEASY

Other symptoms of alarm to fascist headquarters are the unwillingness of home firms to send further exports to dealers in Ethiopia until existing debts are paid, and the discontent among

Italian businessmen generally over the lack of opportunity and actual loss of money already suffered in Ethiopian trade. Rules and regulations are not solving the problem.

They surely cannot alleviate the mounting unrest among the Italian soldiers on duty in Ethiopia. The correspondent says, "Deserters frequently surrender at the French Somaliland frontiers. About a fortnight ago a group of ten soldiers gave themselves up to the French authorities, giving as explanation the terrible hardships they had to suffer and harsh treatment by their superiors."

Meanwhile guerilla warfare goes on unceasingly. Night attacks on truck convoys are common and Italians are round dead every day. A series of mass executions of natives has not had the result of breaking their spirit. Although Addis Ababa and the larger cities are considered safe, Italian officials and merchants will not go elsewhere without heavily armed guards.

HE LEARNED HIS LESSON

Orders against looting are very strict. Military gear thrown away by the evacuating fascists and trifles left about the streets are legitimate capture. The dangers of taking such stuff are not disciplinary, but can be equally sharp.

A comrade from New Zealand had an experience in Villanueva de la Cañada which will discourage him for a long time from appropriating things that once belonged to fascists, when next he finds himself in a captured village.

In Villanueva he picked up a good fascist coat. Though he tore off the falangist badge, it still looked like what it was. He found a mauser gun, for which he discarded his own. He put a few fascist papers in his pocket as keepsakes, also a rubber stamp.

Further on, being separated from his unit, he encountered some Spanish comrades from another Brigade. At such times, everybody is on the alert.

"What's this gun?" said one.

A fascist would probably have given the answer he gave. They



LOYAL SPANISH WOMEN in a war factory making shells.

looked at his coat. Its origin was obvious. They searched his pockets and found the papers and the stamp.

A crowd collected. "Fascist spy!" shouted somebody.

"Stand aside," cried a man with a revolver. "I'll put him under arrest."

The New Zealander heard the

click of a gun being cocked. To his dying day he will never forget that sound.

Had not a Portuguese comrade rushed up and identified him, his dying day would have overtaken him then and there.

In the future, he will be more careful how he snaps up the unconsidered trifles that fascists have left behind.

U. S. MEDICAL BUREAU TO AID CHINA

The American Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy will also aid China. Dr. Walter B. Cannon, noted physiologist of Harvard University and national chairman of the Medical Bureau, has offered the services of more than a hundred leading members of the medical profession to organizations arranging help for the Chinese people. Liberty-loving Americans, Dr. Cannon said, still believe in democracy and abhor fascism wherever it appears.

Dr. Cannon's statement said, "In view of the fact that our limited and overworked forces are laboring day and night to render adequate medical aid to Spain, we offer as a concrete expression of our sympathy, to place at the disposal of all individuals and groups who wish to render medical aid to China, the technical facilities we have developed in our past year's experience in helping Loyalist Spain."

NEWS IN BRIEF

HAMILTON, ONTARIO.—Major Ludwig Renn, commander of the 11th Brigade, now on leave of absence for propaganda purposes, addressed a large audience here, and showed that most newspapers falsify reports on the true situation in Spain. The People's Army, he asserted, is prepared for anything and may even take the offensive before the enemy start theirs. This speech was made two weeks before Teruel forced all the newspapers of the world to wake up to the truth of the internationally famous anti-fascist author's statements.

BARCELONA.—At a meeting of Socialist Deputies in the Spanish Cortes it was agreed to propose to the Second International that an international assembly of Socialist parliamentarians be held in a city in Spain. The meeting was attended by Indalecio Prieto, Largo Caballero, Alvarez del Vayo and Ramón Lamonedá, of the Committee for the Unification of the Socialist and Communist Parties.



— A delegation of Madrid journalists attending the Exposition of Madrid, showing how the city was attacked and is being defended, received a gift for General Miaja, consisting of a Mauser-type rifle, light machine-gun and a Schneider-type rifle. All of these weapons were manufactured in Catalonia.

— The National Plenum of the Syndicalist Party has unanimously elected Marín Civera as chairman of its national executive Committee. He succeeds Angel Pestaña, leader of the Syndicalist Party for several years, who died recently of long-standing illness. The plenum decided to erect a mausoleum in his memory.

NEW YORK CITY.—Taxi-drivers throughout the city are on strike to force the companies to comply with union contracts drawn up last June. The number of men involved is 4,300 and is increasing steadily as the strike progresses.

NEW YORK.—Mayor La Guardia is definitely a member of the American Labor Party according to the election law of New York State, since he enrolled under its emblem during registration week last October. His wife did likewise.

The six councilmen elected by the American Labor Party decided, at their first caucus, to concentrate on a fight against high food prices and rents, and will demand a yardstick power plant, municipal ownership of transit and a city-owned milk distributing system. The Labor Party delegation consists of B. Charney Vladeck, Manhattan, who was named chairman, Louis Hollander and Andrew R. Armstrong, Brooklyn, Michael J. Quill and Salvatore Ninfo, the Bronx, and Charles Belous, Queens.

Peter M. Cacchione, Communist candidate who lost out by only 245 votes in Brooklyn, is driving powerfully for a recount which may still elect him by revealing strongly suspected vote-manipulations on the part of Tammany Hall.

— Without changing its program, the American League Against War and Fascism has enlarged its popular appeal by altering its name to the American League For Peace and Democracy.

MOSCOW.—A trade treaty has been signed between the Soviet Union and Lithuania, establishing mutual import and export quotas for 1938.

— Final returns on the elections in the U. S. S. R. have put 1,114 members into the Supreme Soviet. Of these, many are women. Total votes cast were 90,319,346, showing that 96.5 % of citizens eligible to vote actually used the ballot. It was the largest election the world ever saw.

YPRES, BELGIUM.—Setting a new world's record for its class, a Belgian biplane sped 2000 kilometers in 8 hours and 8 seconds. The average velocity was just a shade less than 250 kilometers an hour.

PARIS.—Minister of Foreign Affairs Delbos rendered a report to the French Senate on his conversations in London and the re-



WASHING-UP during off-moments behind the lines.

sults of his recent trip through Central Europe. The report has not yet been made public.

LONDON.—Another British delegation will visit Loyalist Spain. They will come after the New Year holidays. The group will consist of about twenty members, representing various political opinions, including laborites, liberals, members of the House of Lords and perhaps conservatives as well.

— The "Times" publishes the statement forced from Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden as a reply to a parliamentary inquiry concerning the damage inflicted on British vessels in Spanish waters. According to these figures, twenty-five ships have been attacked in the period from the beginning of the war until August 1937. Eight of them were Royal Navy, while the others belonged to merchant marine. Damage was caused, the statement admits, by bombs, cannon-fire, torpedoes from submarines, aerial machine-gunning, and floating mines, but "in some cases it has not been possible to determine with certainty who was responsible for the incidents."

— The "Daily Herald" announces that the British Army will shortly begin using a new type of rifle. It will be much heavier than the present one and will have double the caliber. It will use bullets that are not only tank-piercing but explosive as well. Prep-

arations are also being made for a new and more effective model of anti-tank gun.

VATICAN CITY.—Almost the whole of the Pope's Christmas message, usually devoted to an annual survey of the world scene, is concerned with Nazi Germany's policy on religion. "We have to pronounce solemnly and concretely", the message stated, "that in Germany there exists a true system of religious persecution, despite all affirmations to the contrary". Making the demand that "Germany become again the Germany that we used to love", the message says further "So grave is the religious persecution that we find it carried out with measures including brutality, violence, falsity, fraud and lies".

MEXICO CITY.—The Confederation of Mexican Workers is summoning a continental congress of democratic forces to initiate common international action against the spread of fascism on the American continents. Among the political organizations who will attend are the Uruguay Socialist Party, the Argentine Socialist Party, the Argentine Radical Party, the Argentine Socialist Labor Party, all the parties of the Popular Front of Chile, all the parties supporting the present government of Colombia, the A. P. R. A. Party of Peru, and the Democratic and Socialist Parties of Cuba and Central America.

Australian C. P. Greets Volunteers, Nurses in Spain

"The Australian labor movement and all friends and supporters of democracy and peace are filled with pride and joy at the heroic endeavors of the sons and daughters of the Australian and New Zealand toiling people now assisting the valorous Spanish people defend its liberty against the fascist hordes of Hitler, Mussolini and Franco."

With these words the Communist Party of Australia sends a letter of greetings to the Australian nurses and fighters with the International Brigades. Grieving for Jack Barry and E. Dickenson, who were killed in action, the letter says, "Workers will always cherish their names and those with them, the living symbols of international fraternity."

The letter points out that thousands of Australian people are responding to the appeals of Comrade Lowson, recently returned from service in Spain, and that the organization of material aid to the anti-fascist struggle is steadily reaching higher levels. The letter concludes:

"All this guarantees that the final victory will rest with the cause served so nobly by the sons and daughters of Australian democracy, the truest representatives of the great tradition of Australian freedom, won in the struggle against convictism, at the Eureka Stockade, in the anti-conscription victories, in the struggle of the labor movement. The victory will be ours, the victory of peace, of democracy, of internationalism, over the enemies of humanity, civilization and culture—Hitler, Mussolini and Franco."

Poumists Kicked Out of Valencia Council

The two P. O. U. M. members of the Valencia City Council have been deposed by order of the Civil Governor of Valencia. This action follows the withdrawal of several other party groups from the Council as a protest against the presence of the P. O. U. M.

The P. O. U. M. is accused by the Civil Governor of attacking the Government as well as the other political and trade-union organizations and of carrying out a policy of disruption.



Italian "Volunteers" Get Poor Treatment

The treatment received by Mussolini's "volunteers" when they return disabled is the subject of a report from reliable sources. Hundreds of Italians, wounded in Spain, have been landing for the past few weeks at Naples, Gaeta and Spezia. Their families are not notified, and the soldiers are placed in special hospitals from which all visitors are excluded. They are isolated to prevent any news of their activities or present condition becoming known to the public.

When discharged from the hospital these soldiers make contact with their families for the first time and then discover that the fascist authorities have not kept the promise to support their dependents, a promise given to all these "volunteers".

One of these Italian soldiers, badly wounded in the Asturias battles, found his family close to starvation. He applied to the government for pay which he had

not received in Spain, and also demanded the bonus guaranteed at the time he enlisted. After many delays his claim was at last refused on the ground that no appropriation had yet been made for such purposes.

Harry Pollitt Pays Christmas Visit

Welcome visitor to Spain this Christmastide was Harry Pollitt, British working-class leader. Harry's visits—this is his third in 1937—are welcome not only because of his cheery personality and the personal interest he takes in every comrade but also because it is now an established custom that when Harry comes he literally brings good cheer. This time it took the shape of a Christmas present and a personal greeting to every man. Not content with visiting the XV Brigade, Harry toured every hospital and even found time to pay the Anglo-American delegation at Madrid a visit. His coming here, as everywhere else, was the occasion of an impromptu and enjoyable celebration.

London Labor Rallies To Aid Spain. Attlee Speaks

Ten thousand people packed the London Albert Hall and an overflow had to be brought to Hammersmith Town Hall when Major Attlee and Labour Party colleagues held a meeting in support of the democratic Government of Spain on Dec. 19. The meeting was a warning to the British Government, declared Chairman George Dallas. Dealing with the reactionary proposal to grant belligerent rights to Franco, Sir Stafford Cripps, M. P., emphasised "they shall not get away with it". Major Attlee, detailing his experiences in Spain, pointed out that those who argued religion is at stake are "using the religious issue for their own material interests."

An appeal for 1,000 pounds for Spain realised subscriptions totalling 3,300 pounds. Mr. Lloyd George subscribed 10 pounds.

Irish Labor Opposes De Valera Constitution

IRELAND.—Mr. de Valera's new Constitution which came into force recently replaces but does not materially alter Mr. Cosgrave's Constitution of 1923. Highlights of the new Constitution are: substitution of the name Eire (Ireland) for the name Irish Free State; a claim (which will not be enforced) of jurisdiction over the

partitioned North-East; provision for the Uachtarán (President) of Eire. In effect, the Constitution declares—but will not enforce—a free united Ireland. It is opposed by Republican and Labour Parties.

In Parliament last week, Labour leaders bitterly assailed Mr. de Valera's virtual recognition of the fascist conquest of Ethiopia. Occasion was the announcement that the Irish Free State was accrediting a Minister to "the King of Italy and Emperor of Abyssinia." Mr. de Valera, backed by his political opponents of the Cosgrave party, pleaded that he was not recognising the annexation of Ethiopia, but merely "recognising the name taken by the Italian sovereign!"



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades ★

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LISTER, PEOPLE'S SOLDIER, RAISED TO RANK OF LIEUT.-COL. BY NEW GOVERNMENT DECREE



LISTER

A Division Commander of the 5th Army Corps of the People's Army.

Enrique Lister, commander of the famous division that bears his name, has been promoted from the rank of major to that of lieutenant-colonel. His elevation is the first to take place under the new decree of the Ministry of Defense, which changes the rule that men who were not professional soldiers before the war may not reach higher rank than major. This rule, enacted by the previous Largo Caballero government, could not attempt to limit the degree of responsibility that able members of the People's Army might assume. It simply restricted their official status. Thus it happens that men of the people have risen to the command of brigades and even of divisions without having the title corresponding to their posts.

Certain leaders, tried and tested under the fire of many battles, have seen their names become bywords for heroism and skill. Their

men will follow them to hell and the people of Spain idolize them. Among them are Valentin Gonzales, a peasant now famous as "El Campesino", Modesto, a carpenter, Duran, a musician, and Lister, a stone-cutter. But as they were not professionally trained soldiers, they have remained as majors. That formality, however, has never handicapped their efforts.

Lister's promotion will undoubtedly be followed by others, for the decree states "It is necessary and just that each soldier of the new Army should carry in his knapsack the baton of a field marshal." The division commanded by Lister occupied one of the most crucial positions at Teruel. During the fascist counter-offensive the Lister division withstood a series of terrific attacks against their lines without losing an inch. This achievement perhaps accounts for his selection as the first lieutenant-colonel to emerge from the people's ranks.

LED 5th REGIMENT

All political quarters are applauding this act of recognition of one of the very great commanders of the People's Army. It is only a proper official reward to a man, a worker, a leader, who in 1932 was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment as a dangerous labor agitator; who in July 1936 was in the crowd that stormed Montaña Barracks in Madrid and prevented the treacherous garrison from handing over the city to the fascist generals; who, a few days later, was up in the Guadarrama Mountains as a soldier of the unforgettable Fifth

Regiment, which fought not only the enemy troops but also against chaos, and prevailed over both; who eventually became the elected commander-in-chief of the Fifth Regiment, remaining in that difficult post until a short time before the regiment voted itself out of existence as a political entity and gave the original example to other independent militia units of single-minded loyalty to the People's Front Government alone.

THRU MANY CAMPAIGNS

The Government chose Enrique Lister to organize the first brigade of the People's Army. He took

the volunteers, untrained men mostly but lion-hearted anti-fascists like himself, and what he did with them is known to two armies—ours, who admire the Listers, and the fascists, who fear them. Into the most vital campaigns and through the most decisive battles—Madrid, Carabanchel, Jarama, Guadalajara, Toledo, Valdemoros, Brunete, Belchite and now Teruel—he has led the flower of Spain's heroic manhood. The whole world knows what they have achieved. And Lister's name has become a symbol of flaming personal courage, of brilliant leadership, and of profound popular faith.

PLEDGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE SOLDIER

(This pledge was taken by the 15th Brigade Training Camp soldiers on January 1, 1938.)

We promise, on this New Year's day, to renew our Pledge: With all our hearts, we shall fight until we win our Victory over fascism.

We shall carry out our duties in the Republican Army of the Spanish Republic, and carry forward the victory of Teruel to its final conclusion, and if necessary give our lives for this cause.

We pledge to fight the enemy at the front and defeat the enemy in the rear.

We pledge to fight and carry on until the heart of fascism has been destroyed throughout all the world.

We pledge to the working class of all the world that we will carry high their banner.

We thank the Spanish people for this opportunity to join them in their struggle.

We pledge our Victory as vengeance for our fallen comrades.

TERUEL RENEWS ANCIENT ROLE IN WAR FOR FREEDOM



OUR SOLDIERS walking through one of the streets in Teruel after we had taken it.

In connection with the liberation of Teruel by the Republican forces, it is interesting to note that this is not the first time that Teruel has played a role in Spanish wars for freedom. The Carlists, one of the fascist organizations among the rebels, were among those who attempted to defend the city during the present war. But during the Carlist war that broke out during the 1840's, they were the ones who besieged the city, which was in the hands of the liberals. On July 2, General Ramon Maria Narvaez, a commander of the liberals, left Valencia with 3600 soldiers and 300 cavalymen to come to the aid of the besieged city.

Twenty-six hundred reactionary Carlists, under the leadership of Enna, were laying siege to Teruel. There were very few defenders in the city at that time; and the place was defended by two things principally. The first was its geographical position surround-

ded as it was, and still is, by natural fortresses. And the second factor making for its defense was the inefficiency, the apathy, and the lack of enthusiasm on the part of Enna, the Carlists leader, a man who stood in fear of every obstacle and difficulty that confronted him.

Another of the Carlist reactionary leaders who was attacking Teruel together with Enna, looked with distaste at the dangerous inaction into which the latter had sunk. He therefore convinced Enna that, instead of waiting to be attacked by the liberal commander, Narvaez, the Carlists should march toward the oncoming column of liberals and attack them. It was the plan of Inestal, which was the name of the second Carlist leader, to have his troops put aside everything but arms and ammunition, and then attempt a surprise attack against the liberals, while they were asleep.

In the early hours of July 3rd,

Inestal set out to carry through his surprise attack. Six hours later he heard that Enna's men, who were to have fought at his side, were deserting en masse. A return march to put an end to this cowardice was now necessary. This delay smashed his plans, and his own troops became demoralized by contact with Enna's men. By the time the liberals reached Teruel, they were able to march into it without a fight for the discouraged Carlists had raised their siege and left before their enemies could get close enough to attack.

Narvaez, the liberal, followed up his advantage at once. He sent his cavalry after the fleeing Carlists. The cavalry was unable to overtake the fugitive reactionaries. But Narvaez himself conti-



SAGUNTO HIGHWAY along which the civilians were evacuated.

ruel salient and is of great strategic importance to the fascists, who still control it.

Both Teruel and Calatayud were of great importance in the Carlist war of 1843. They are both of great importance in the present war of independence. In 1843, the liberals defended Teruel and were not defeated. In 1937 the fascists were the ones who



ONE of the little towns that fell with Teruel.

nued to press north with his men until he reached the city of Calatayud. The name of this city should be borne in mind by all. It stands at the mouth of the Te-

defended it. But despite their immense fortifications, and their excellent war material, they were unable to hold it against the forces of Spanish freedom.



Left: Seminary.

Center: Civil Guard Barracks.

Right: Civil Government building.

View of Teruel — picture taken from the south-western part of the captured city.

IF FRANCO RESORTS TO POISON GAS—

A year ago it was thought likely that the fascists would use gas against the loyal Spanish army. They have not done so yet, but they very well may. So every comrade should know the simple essentials of gas warfare.

The enemy will probably use one of three kinds of substance, a choking gas, a blistering vapor or a smoke causing sneezing. All these are commonly called "gas". It is very unlikely that they will use other gases, for example those which cause tears but not choking, for they are not humanitarians. Nor will they use hydrogen cyanide, for some choking gases are ten or twenty times as poisonous.

MUSTARD GAS

It is often thought that terrible new gases have been invented. I do not believe this. Mustard gas, the worst so far produced, was invented fifty years ago. There are many more poisonous substances, for example diphtheria toxin. But their molecules are too big to allow them to vaporize, and substances with small molecules have been pretty well studied without finding any very bad new poisons. Finally, if Hitler has a new and very deadly poison (which I don't believe), he will keep it for use on Paris, Moscow or London rather than try it in Spain where a victory would not win the world for fascism.

Choking gases, such as phosgene and tri-chlor-methyl-chloroformate, attack the lungs and eyes at once. They are dangerous but not treacherous, except that after a fit of violent coughing a man may think he has recovered, and then go down with lung inflammation. Your mask gives absolutely complete protection.

Blistering gases, of which mustard gas is the worst, are treacherous. Mustard gas is the vapor of an oily liquid, which attacks your eyes, lungs and skin, in that order. But the eyes are only affected two hours after exposure to the vapor, and the lungs and skin later. Your mask protects your eyes and lungs completely, your skin not at all.

You may get blistered even when wearing a mask, but the blisters are not fatal, nor do they leave permanent scars. Of 170,000 British casualties from mustard gas in the last war, only one in 40 died, and less than one in 100 was invalided for more than six months. The deaths were all due

First Article of Two Telling What Gas Is, The Way to Combat It and Why Fascists Hesitate to Begin.—By a World Famous British Biologist

PROF.

J. B. S. HALDANE

to not putting on the masks in time. Four of the 170,000 were blinded.

Sneezing is caused by arsenical smokes, often after quite a long delay. They also cause violent pains in the head for a few hours, but never kill. Your mask may not give absolutely complete protection in very dense smoke. If a little gets through, don't take the mask off. You will be worse off without it.

Mustard gas and Lewisite, which has similar blistering properties, and a smell like geraniums, are called persistent, because when they have been scattered over ground in a liquid form this ground is contaminated for

aeroplanes. Dichlor-ethyl-sulphide was sprayed from aeroplanes in Abyssinia.

They can be used for three distinct purposes. Cloud and shell attacks were used to break the line, trench mortar and bomb attacks to cause casualties. Ground was sprayed with mustard gas in order to deny it to both sides. For example, during big attacks the Germans shelled with mustard gas at each side of the sector where they were trying to break through, to prevent British counter-attacks. On the actual front of attack they used high explosive shells, and non-persistent gas and smoke.

GAS ATTACK UNLIKELY

Why hasn't Franco used gas in Spain? Some of you may think that he is such a perfect gentleman that he would not like to make even the dogs and mules cough, let alone you. There are other rather better reasons. The terrain is unsuitable, especially for cloud attacks. During most of the year the ground is so hot that vertical air currents would lift gas off the ground and scatter it in the air. So if there is a gas attack I expect it will be made before the end of March. Possibly a night attack might be practical later.

But the main reason is something

else. Suppose I am shelling a kilometre of front; if I put over 1000 high explosive shells I expect to kill 10 times as many people as if I had put over 100. With 1000 gas shells I expect to kill 20 or 50 as many as with 100. Gases are not poisonous until they reach a certain concentration. Above this concentration, the more gas, the shorter time of exposure needed to disable or kill. So a few gas shells at rare intervals will probably do no harm at all



a time varying from about two days in hot weather to two weeks in cold weather. Other types of gas are called non-persistent, because they clear away in a few minutes if there is a wind or in a few hours in calm weather.

METHODS USED

In the war of 1914-1918 and later wars these gases were used in five different ways. They were first of all released in great clouds from cylinders in the trenches. Such methods are quite impossible in hilly country, though they were effective on the flat plains of Belgium and Russia. They were also fired in drums from trench mortars of a special type with a range up to about 700 metres. They were released from shells. They were dropped in bombs from



GAS MASKS captured from the enemy at Carabanchel.



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ALBACETE

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JANUARY 13 - 1938

AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS

The month of January is an especially significant month for Americans in Spain. It was on January 2, 1937—a year ago—that the first large group of American volunteers set foot on Spanish soil. Reaching Albacete four days later, they were officially incorporated into the International Brigades on January 6th. During the entire month there continued to arrive those additional Americans—among them were Canadians and Cubans—who, together with our Irish comrades, made up the original Lincoln Battalion which moved up to the Jarama lines in the middle of February.

These men were the pioneers, the first of the more than 3,000 American volunteers who followed them into Spain, forming the Washington Battalion (merged after the Brunete offensive with the Lincolnners) and a good part of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion. These were, and are, the men who now fight shoulder to shoulder with the British and Spanish comrades in our own brigade: the 15th International Brigade.

In marking this first anniversary, we salute our predecessors: the people of Spain whose bravery held the fascists at bay in those early, critical days of July and August, 1936; the German and French comrades, who were the first international volunteers in Spain; and the British comrades of our own brigade, whose arrival in Spain preceded ours by three months.

And, in noting this anniversary, we look forward with confidence to that celebration which will be the greatest and most satisfying of all: the final victory of the Spanish people over fascism. On that day, as now, we will be here to take part in the victory, as we do now, in the struggle.

FASCIST DECEPTION

The accident that befell a group of British and American reporters on Franco's side of the lines at Teruel is a new variation on the old theme of fascist unscrupulousness. In a war like this, where so many innocent lives have already been destroyed, a few more deaths do not call for sentiment. Regrettable as the case may be, it was still a risk that war correspondents must run in the course of duty.

The importance of the matter lies in its revelation of how brutally unconcerned fascism is to all human lives. The significance of the incident consists in its complete exposure of Franco's eternal readiness to lie and deceive and befuddle the world. The tragedy of these journalists offers another proof of fascism's roughshod criminality. Let us hope that the inevitable publicity on the case will teach many more people outside of Spain the fundamental lesson we have known for a long time—that fascism will kill until it is killed.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Fascism in the raw! To conceal the Teruel disaster from people in the rebel zone, the heavy trainloads of wounded from that front are brought to the distant rear. When the trains arrive, the alarm sirens are sounded to warn of Loyalist air raids. Spectators naturally scatter, and then the wounded are removed in trucks... Here's an interesting example of fascist morale (after Teruel). Nine Spaniards escaped from Algeciras (a fascist stronghold) to Gibraltar (British territory) by swimming across the bay, one of the roughest stretches of water in Europe. It took them six hours, but they thought getting away was worth the trouble... The British Ambassador in China was badly wounded when a Japanese plane swooped low and shot a burst of bullets into his official car traveling on a highway. That was some months ago and he has finally left the hospital. But a new ambassador is taking his place. Quite right! Antagonizing Tokio the way he did — the very idea!...

Poland has raised voting age to 24 (total population 32,000,000). The Soviet Union sets suffrage at 18 (total population 165,000,000)... It happened in Quinto and Belchite too. Fascist prisoners taken at Teruel had salvo-conductoes for leave to Madrid. Wouldn't they have been disappointed to find that stores and cafes in that particular city do not accept German Reichsmarks as currency?... A certain New York clubman pays seven and a half bucks for a pair of his French hosiery socks. Isn't that Japanese silk boycott becoming irksome?... Vargas calls his recently established fascist government in Brazil "authoritative democracy". Add that to your political

education... In the North a campaign is starting to stamp out the Catalanian and Basque tongues as being mere "barbarian dialects". Certainly, Italian and German are much more classical languages, not to speak of Moorish... Thousands of sheep were taken at Teruel, including quite a few two-legged ones... The British Government is building a very special bomb-proof shelter for the King. It's really an investment, though. Inaugurations are much more expensive... Phalangists and reque-



tes are quarreling more and more, and postal service has had to be suspended between various points in Francoland. Now that's really too bad. When they start opening each other's mail, it's serious... There's one consolation in winter warfare. The sun doesn't go to work and make you wonder which smells worse — a dead mule or a dead fascist... Here's the way it goes: Japan recognized the Franco government, so Franco recognized Manchukuo. Thereupon Manchukuo exercised its sovereign rights as a nation and recognized Franco too... You won't believe it, but Brazil has banned the "Tarzan" series for Communist tendencies... This one is a little easier to figure out. When Vittorio Mussolini's book "Bombs Over Abyssinia" was translated into German, a couple of Nazi reviewers called it "a charming little book of adventure"... In Czechoslovakia fourteen members of the fascist party were convicted in court on charges of homosexuality. Two were sentenced, but the rest are still around. Whoops!... Captured Basque priests are sent to the Madrid front and forced to dig trenches. That's the new fascist version of defending God and country... "Japan is paying the price which the leadership of the Asiatic races demands", says a Tokio spokesman. According to statistics, Japan has 300,000 prostitutes... The Duke of Alba, Franco's representative in London, points out that when Napoleon invaded Spain, Great Britain sent men and munitions to drive him out, and that Italy and Germany today merely want to do the same to Stalin. But how about the Sultan of Morocco? What the hell does he want?...



JAPAN, the partner of German fascism.

NEWS IN BRIEF

LONDON.—Mr. Morrison, Labor M. P., made a speech predicting that elections will be held this year in Great Britain which will surely result in changing the foreign policy of the present cabinet.

HANKOW.—In order to devote himself exclusively to his duties as Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Armies, Chiang-Kai-Shek has resigned the presidency of the Executive Council, being succeeded by Kung, Minister of the Treasury.

This move by Chiang-Kai-Shek is considered a reinforced answer to Japan's offer of peace, made through the German ambassador. The offer was unconditionally rejected.

EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO.—The boycott against Japan was started with a spectacular demonstration in this town, which is the pottery capital of America. Virtually the whole population of 25,000 have joined the boycott. William Green, president of the A. F. of L., personally marched in the parade.

LONDON.—The Dean of Canterbury sent General Miaja a telegram saying: "Your magnificent fight for democracy and the epic events at Teruel strengthen our faith in your final triumph over fascism. We are working here and shall continue to work without rest for democracy, justice and world peace."

MOSCOW.—The most complete atlas of the world is finished. After working for several years scientific authors have now issued the first volume of a projected set of three. The others will appear shortly. The first one contains more than 350 maps so presented that they indicate the physical structure of the seas and oceans, the astronomical system, the distribution of mineral and oil deposits, as well as the climatic conditions of the various regions all over the world.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Congressman Usher Burdick, North Dakota Republican, has introduced a resolution demanding retrial for Tom Mooney in California. He has sent an appeal to both the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. for support of the measure, pointing out the unconstitutionality of California's legislation on the case



TOM MOONEY

and the complete discrediting of the original evidence upon which Mooney was "framed" twenty-one years ago.

BARCELONA.—A committee of women of Catalonia visited the Ambassador of the United States and delivered to him a message addressed to President Roosevelt, expressing thanks for his assertion of international rights and obligations in his recent speech.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, made a speech violently attacking the "sixty families" of the United States who possess practically one-fourth of the national wealth. He said these economic masters are using the present depression to dictate conditions which are "absolutely unacceptable in a democracy". Appealing to the American people to support Roosevelt

in the fight against big business, Ickes declared, "This fight will be a war to the death until either these sixty families or 130 million Americans prevail. The United States must not fall into the chaos of fascist nations; it must be a country with freedom of opportunity, a country of free men and not of slaves".

MOSCOW.—With the creation of a People's Commissariat of Marine, the Soviet Union is coming nearer to the point of adequate naval strength. Progress has been rapid and characteristic since the World War and the Revolution when the country was left with practically no fleet at all. Today strategic naval bases are established, and it is believed that the Soviet Union has the largest number of submarines of any navy. A large fleet of light cruisers performed complex maneuvers recently, while several ships of the line are under construction in American shipyards.



MADRID.—The representative of the Chilean Embassy has delivered to the Spanish Government the sum of 72,000 pesetas donated by people of his country for the welfare of orphaned children. Additional winter clothing and toys will be supplied to the children through this money.

GENEVA.—The Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress has petitioned the British and French Governments in protest at the new measures in Roumania curtailing the civic and economic rights of Jews. The petition cites the Treaty of Minorities of December 9, 1919, guaranteed by the League of Nations, which imposes the duty on countries belonging to the Council of the League of protecting Jews and other races under the circumstances described.

PARIS.—Niceto Alcalá Zamora, semi-reactionary president of Spain from 1931 to 1936, who has been in voluntary exile since the People's Front won power, has now published an article saying the Spanish people will never permit a fascist dictatorship to rule their country. "It is very easy to predict", he writes, "that such a regime will be an incessant series of abuses, crimes and rebellions, as well as failures and weaknesses in its duties."

YUGO-SLAVIA.—The "News-Review" of London, commenting on the recent visit of French Foreign Minister Delbos to Belgrade, gives the following illuminating item:

"By the time the car containing the Minister and Premier Stoyadinovitch reached the Foreign Office the crowds were howling Long live Democracy and the Front Populaire! Down with fascism and the Dictatorship of Stoyadinovitch!" Thirty thousand Belgrade citizens swarmed the streets singing "The Marseillaise" which has long been banned in Yugoslavia as being too revolutionary.



ARTILLERY PIECE in action.

Five Who Want A Crown...

For decades, the Spanish people struggled to rid themselves of the crown and all that it represented. They established a republic in 1931, and thought that they had already achieved democracy and the opportunity to develop what Bertrand Russel calls the "good life". But Gil Robles and Alejandro Lerroux maneuvered their way into the leadership of the republic, and within the framework of that republic that the people had already struggled so hard to establish, they set up a monarchy without a king. A republic that was in reality a monarchy, such was the situation in which the Spanish masses found themselves until the reactionaries were thrown out of power.

The struggle went on. In 1934 the miners of Asturias were butchered and a wave of repression ran through the country. But the deeply rooted demand for a true democracy would not die. 1936, and the Popular Front came into power. At last, after centuries of oppression, the good life was within reach of the people of this country. The people's government set to work. Land for the peasants, work for the workers, a chance given to the intellectuals to build a culture, and schools in which the culture that was being built could be transmitted to the school children.

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

But in 1934, the Spanish fascists and the reactionary generals had already laid plans to throw the country into a civil war if they found themselves unable to hold power in any other way. The fascist leaders visited Hitler and Mussolini. They were promised aid. The stage was set. In July, 1936, the army rebellion broke out. There were two months of civil war. Then the German and Italian soldiers came pouring in. Bit by bit the Spanish fascists were pushed into subordinate positions. Their role in the struggle became a secondary one. The civil war became a war of independence, and the Spanish people settled down for a long struggle to defend its young democracy, to hold its independence, and to secure the social gains that it had already made.

The Germans, the Italians, and the Spanish fascists knew what

they wanted: colonies, mines, large land holdings, rights and privileges, the opportunity to rule and exploit and oppress an entire people, and then to use that people as a base to attack still more countries. The war started because the selfish interests, the men who belong to the past wanted to continue their hold on the country. Spain was to continue to belong to the past, so that these men could continue to own Spain.

But one of the ways in which Spain could be kept in the past was by keeping it a monarchy. The crown of Spain must be kept on the head of a king. But what king? That was the question. The crown of Spain is already covered with dust. But there are five men who want that crown. And because they want it, the blood of human beings is flowing on all the fronts of Spain. It is a doubtful sort of crown. It will never rest easy on the head of any king in Spain. But five men want it.

ALFONSO XIII

Who are these men? Alfonso of Bourbon, who once ruled in Spain under the title of Alfonso XIII, is the first of them. When he fled across the Span-

ish border on April 14, 1931, the people let him go. They made no effort to execute him, to imprison him, or to make him pay in any way for the crimes that he had committed. This was a democracy that they had established, and how could a people that had just ushered in a reign of peace and freedom execute or imprison a king? But once he was safe abroad, Alfonso of Bourbon set to work to regain his crown. He plotted, he entered into conspiracies with the nobility. In 1921, his desire to hold the Arabs of North Africa in slavery had led him to send his army against them, and on one single day, due to the criminal negligence of generals, ten thousand Spanish soldiers, torn from field and store and workshop, were slaughtered by the Riffs of Abd el Krim.

Long before that day, Alfonso had already received the contemptuous nickname of the African. Good, he was the African, and he wanted a crown, and the Moors of North Africa showed that they could slaughter Spaniards. So he lent his aid to the plan of Franco and Sanjurjo whereby the Mohammedans of Morocco were to defend a Christianity that would be topped by Alfonso the African and his unsteady crown.

HOUSE OF HAPSBURG

Otto of Hapsburg. That is the name and title of the second of those five who so eagerly desire the crown of Spain. His mother was the wife of Carl, last emperor of the Austro-Hungarian empire. When that empire crashed under the thrust of a nation tired of four years of war and centuries of misrule, Otto was taken into exile by his mother Zita. But the woman was determined that her son should have a crown. She has involved herself in plots that cover the face of Europe. Austria and Hungary were still the center of her desires and hopes for her son. But Spain had given her son refuge during the years of wandering. The throne of Austria had once been linked with that of Spain. And the Spanish crown was vacant, though only because it had been thrown into the gutter.

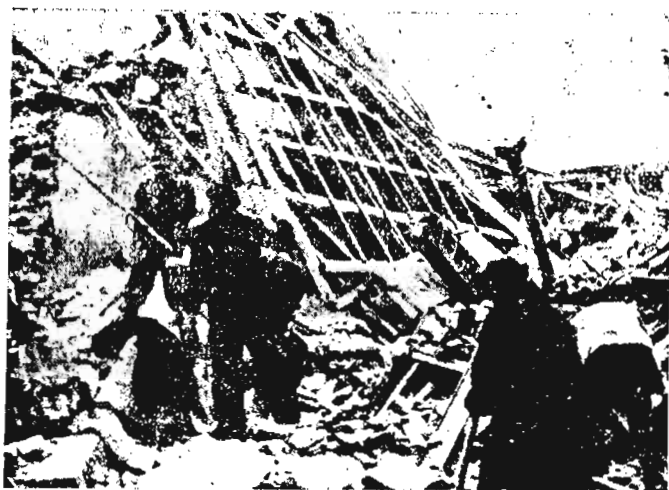
SEÑORITOS

The Count of Covadonga. Eldest son of Alfonso and Victoria Eugenia. His childhood spent in the midst of palace intrigues. His body torn and wracked by ill health that has brought him to death's door a dozen times. His young manhood spent among the señoritos, the young gentlemen's sons, who had built up a whole cult of luxury and idleness that had won them all the undying hatred of the Spanish people. So far did the señoritos arouse the disgust of the masses that the lower classes developed a code of ethics that was a point-counterpoint sort of thing. It consisted of this principle: don't do anything that the señoritos do. Keep a wall between yourself and the señorito. This attitude on the part of the people contained many elements that will seem peculiar to a man who has lived among traditions of freedom, unless he bears in mind the suffering and the tyranny in which the Spanish masses have lived.

I recall an incident that took place in a small village in the region of La Mancha, a region associated with the Don Quixote of Cervantes. I was escorting a young lady to the home of a friend. We reached a part of the street where the ground had been torn up, and almost instinctively I reached out to take the young woman by



FORMER KING ALFONSO kissing the hand of an archbishop.



BECAUSE SPAIN won't allow itself to be ruled by kings, their fascist supporters do this. What was once a worker's dwelling is now a heap of ruins as a result of a fascist air bombardment.

the arm and help her across the rough spot. This young woman, it should be pointed out, was the daughter of a peasant; and when I reached out to take her by the arm, she moved away from me in an almost frightened manner.

Later I spoke of the incident to her father, and he explained the girl's reaction to me. The señoritos, he said, during the days when they walked through the streets as though they owned the world, were in the habit of taking a young woman by the arm as they escorted her. And what the señorito did, the people were against. No habit, no custom, no gesture, that had been part of the code of ethics of the young gentlemen's son, was tolerated by the people in the village.

The Count of Covadonga, therefore, the sick young man who represents in the eyes of the Spanish masses the very essence of *señoritisimo*, the cult of the young gentleman-son, with its dissipation, its idleness, and its luxury, is the third who stretches out his hand for the crown of Spain.

But there is a fourth aspirant for the Spanish throne. Javier Alfonso, the "legitimate". His supporters are the Carlists, who demand the restoration of the Spanish monarchy under the slogan of "God, Fatherland and King". But though the Carlists want a king in Spain again, they want neither Alfonso, nor the Count of Covadonga, nor anyone but a descendant of the house of Don Carlos, of the house of Austria. That is why they call themselves Carlists. That is why they are supporters of Javier or Alfonso, whom they call the "legitimate". Javier Alfonso is an old man now. He is feeble and he is weak. Should he come to the throne of Spain, the royal coronation would soon be followed by a royal funeral. But that is not the point. Behind Javier Alfonso, behind the Carlists, there stand reactionary elements whose interests would be secure if the throne was set up again in Spain and the crown of Spain were to rest, no matter how briefly or unsteadily, on the doddering head of Javier Alfonso, descendant of Don Carlos, the "legitimate" of the house of Austria.

THE DUKE

The fifth and last of the hopeful five is a son of Amadeo de Savoy, the Duke of Aosta. Although he has an excellent reputation as a good father to his children, the duke is not exactly developed when it comes to the intricacies of politics. Personally he might even prefer to remain a father to his children, rather than enter the lists as an aspirant to the position of father to his people. But the unscrupulous fascist leaders who surround him, or who are in contact with

him, have led him to believe that the people of the country await him as a harbinger of peace and prosperity. And he believes them. The monarchists who are leading the old duke by the nose, hope to seat him on the throne, to surround him with men of their own ilk, and then use him as the innocent cat's paw which will rake their chestnuts out of the fire.

Seventeen months of a cruel war against the invaders are already past. And while the people of Spain continue to fight bitterly for its liberty and independence, over there, in the fascist camp, aristocrats who belong to the past, and priests who have brought the money changers into the temple, and Carlists, and reactionaries of the Renovación Española, the monarchist party, continue to weave their schemes of restoration around Alfonso the

African, around his sick son the Count of Covadonga, around the old and half-dead descendant of Carlos of the house of Austria, around Otto, the last of the house of Hapsburg, and around the Duke of Aosta, who turns from his family board to look with puzzled glance into the scheming eyes of the conspirators who would use him as their tool.

These are five who want the crown of Spain. But the crown of Spain no longer exists except as a museum relic. These are five who would sit on the throne of Spain. But the throne of Spain, rickety and uncertain on its shaky legs for so many years, has crashed into the dust at the strong shove of the millions of Spaniards whose hands are reaching out, not for crowns and power over their fellow men, but toward a new life in democracy.

D. M. M.

FASCIST GENERAL LETS IT RIP

Queipo de Llano may be an ass, but nobody needs to take his broadcasts seriously, not even his own soldiers. When a fascist general starts playing the same monkey tricks in an official military bulletin, he seems to be asking for trouble. He got it this time. His Sometime Excellency General Muñoz Castellanos has been fired. No wonder. His report on Teruel was a work of genius, but genius knows no rules.

General Castellanos, officer commanding the fascists at Teruel until we took it, put up a prodigious cock and bull story. He dated it December 22. On that day we were in the city and had all of it except two blocks, which were surrounded. Heaven knows what led the General to do it. Perhaps he thought he could take back the city before the truth did its damaging work, or perhaps he was indulging in a lovely daydream. Whatever it was, he let himself go. Copies of his bulletin are in our hands.

He reports that his troops were advancing victoriously to the south of Teruel, which would mean that the Republican forces were being driven further from the city, if it meant anything at all. A few paragraphs later, he states that attempts made by the "Reds" to storm the town had been repulsed. Somewhere between these two statements some valuable kilometres got lost. This little conundrum must have caused a few headaches behind the fascist lines. Gentlemen have their worries.



In the course of the operations, he claimed, his army had wiped out ten International Brigades. The General must have been making whoopee. He was seeing exactly double. Worse than that, he was seeing what wasn't there. With the same bottle he succeeded in annihilating the Listers, the Campesinos and another Spanish Brigade. What he chose to call the Lincoln Brigade had been so heavily reduced that it had been withdrawn from the line and would cease to function as a unit. According to military practice such a step is only taken when a unit has lost 90 % of its strength.

As a result of all this, Franco apologised over the radio to the Great American Nation. In blue-blooded circles this is called old-world courtesy. It's up to the Lincolns to return the compliment, and say they're sorry they couldn't come along, but they had a date with a few turkeys, pigs, etc. and were totally unable to get away.

CONSOLATION



Well, anyway, Hitler hasn't got it!

AN AMERICAN DENTIST IN SPAIN



DR. JACK KLEIN

No other International volunteer in Spain has been in so unique a position as Dr. Jack Klein, the American dentist with a roving commission. Ever-busy, ever-smiling, he has covered all the fronts, travelling over 10,000 miles in his dental truck, and treated about 3,000 persons, including members of all the International Brigades and nearly all of their battalions. He has also penetrated to the little pueblos off the main highways to give many a native Spaniard a first introduction to a common hygienic practice of better-developed countries.

Dr. Klein believes his traveling dental office represents the first time in warfare that such a flexible method has been used to keep troops actually at the front in good shape. At the time he began his work, the 15th Brigade had already been in the line for about three months. It was the idea of Dr. Edward Barsky, original chief of the American Medical Service, to have the men's teeth checked without further delay after such a long time. Since the vast majority of tooth ailments are caused by neglect, treating them would prevent many of the serious cases that had already occurred. The equipment and the science were there, but the soldiers could not come to it. It would therefore go to them.

An American ambulance was too low, so it was exchanged for a British one with a body high enough for Dr. Klein to stand up in. Sanitary cabinets were built tight against the wall of the truck inside. The chair was installed, anchored into a platform, specially devised on the floor of the truck. A flight of steps was tac-

ked on leading from the ground outside. And he was ready for business. First call to the Lincoln Battalion and its neighbors.

BEGINS AT JARAMA

One case on his very first day of work, May 5, is an example of the strange experiences in store for the former Brooklyn practitioner. Twenty patients were waiting at the Jarama cook-house when he drew up. Gradually they were disposed of, but one comrade refused to mount the chair, declining his turn time and again because there was no "gas". Once in a while he would take a gulp of anis from the canteen he had brought along. He could not be convinced that the anesthetic administered by injection could deaden pain. Dr. Klein had actually begun to clean up the "office" when the reluctant man finally decided to take a chance without "gas". He turned out to be Englishman who had never been to a dentist in his life. Eight rotten upper teeth, and roots were removed in that single sitting. So satisfied was he with the painlessness of the operation that he insisted on having the lower teeth also treated before departing.

He was persuaded to come back another time, and thereafter he returned whenever possible. In the next few weeks Dr. Klein extracted all of the poor teeth and subjected the gums to a hardening process as preparation to fitting a plate into the mouth. He had actually taken measurements. Dr. Klein still keeps them as a memory of a comrade who had become one of his best friends. For on July 8, in the surging advance of the 15th Brigade at Brunete, he fell as adjutant of the British Battalion. He was Lieutenant Charles Goodfellow, of Glasgow, who had come to Spain in December 1936.

IMPROVEMENTS

The American dentist found that although there were many difficulties only one could not be overcome. That was the constant presence of flies. It was only the coming of cool weather at the end of October that drove the plague away. The other problems were soon solved through experience, ingenuity, inspiration or resignation. Thus he became used to

working without a perfectly adjustable dental chair; with a jerky engine operated by foot as a substitute for a smooth and silent-turning electric unit for drilling; with doubly extra effort to sterilize his instruments on an open truck into which the breeze blew germ-laden dust. Thus he improved his services until he was able not only to extract teeth, but also to treat infected jaws and gums and to make silver amalgam restorations.

The strangest hardship of all was one that eventually became quite a pleasure. That was the business of operating in public. Ten years of practice in a quiet, sheltered, completely private office had bred habits which took Dr. Klein a considerable effort to overcome. But almost as if he had actor's blood in his veins, he adapted himself to standing on what is practically a stage before an audience intently scrutinizing his every move. He has even devised a few tricks for effect, such as making extractions ahead of other work in order to impress the waiting (and watching) group of patients with the before-and-after contrast.

PEASANTS GRATEFUL

Together with the assistant he found and trained here, George Waters, 20 year old San Francisco Negro, Dr. Klein has driven and drilled his way through the fronts of Jarama, Cordoba and Aragon; the training camps, the rest homes, the convalescent hospitals. His greatest thrills, however, have come from the plain and simple dwellers of the villages. He finds it easy to understand but hard to accept the homage a peasant pays him for surcease from pain. He has treated very many of these people. Almost all have pressed some gift



ENGINEERS working on our trenches in the Aragon.

upon him which he with equal insistence has refused. His Spanish is good enough to enable him to explain that this is merely an example of what their People's Front Government wants to institute fully and universally after victory; that for such and similar reasons the International Brigades have come to help, both at the front and in the rear.

In the last few campaigns Dr. Klein has accompanied the 15th Brigade to the actual fronts. Right in the line of fire he has taken his place, supervising the stretcher-bearers, assisting the battalion doctors. He has readily adapted his professional skill and experience in jaw surgery to wounds and other frontline needs.

After a campaign he takes his truck out again and resumes his busy dental routine. His office hours are as long as daylight lasts.

M. M.

FAMILY EVACUATED LONG AGO

The Jews were expelled from Spain by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella almost 450 years ago, and it is said that Christopher Columbus was thus forced into exile and a career of exploration. Today a significant percentage of Jews from all countries are members of the International Brigades. It strikes an interesting historical balance, but the point is mentioned only in order to illuminate a little tale.

An American volunteer went to a hotel while on leave in Madrid. The law requires all hotel guests to comply with two conditions before being registered. The first one was very easy for him. Was he in war service? Yes, of course, his appearance showed he belonged to a battalion. So did his papers.

The hotel clerk was strict, and also unimaginative. He asked the second question. Was the applicant's family evacuated from Madrid? The American, who happened to be of Jewish extraction, was puzzled. It took him a few moments to get the idea. But when he did, inspiration came with it.

He leaned across the desk and looked the clerk straight in the eye. "Yes", he said. "My family was evacuated all right. Don't you remember? Back in 1492!"

A Review of the Present World Scene

The two fronts of war and peace are more sharply aligned than ever. There is talk of Germany's "last reasonable proposal":

1. Incorporation of Austria.
2. The transformation of Czechoslovakia into a Federal State.
3. The return of Germany's former colonies.

Italy's withdrawal from the League of Nations, where she was working in the interests of war as vigorously as the Soviet Union for peace, is being taken to mean that in her prospective adventures she does not feel she can be encumbered even with the modest burden of her present collective commitments, which she carried through the Ethiopian War and which have not prevented her from sending whole divisions to Spain.

Because of the policy of the handshake for the robber and the cold shoulder for the victim, the organisation of peace presents many more difficulties than it did twelve months ago, but that does not mean that it is impossible.

In Spain, China and Czechoslovakia the people are asking: "When, if ever, will the democracies act? Where are the French People's Front, the British Labor movement?" Too many have already sunk into a fatalistic acceptance of the inevitability of war.

But as the searchlights of world opinion are more and more sharply focussed on the fascist enemies of peace, it grows increasingly difficult for certain alleged friends of peace to continue their acrobatics in no man's land.

The Edens and Delboscs can still say: "We believe in collective security. We will make every effort for collective security, but we cannot become involved in sanctions and suchlike measures, because that would mean war." They can still say this, but they have less chance of being believed.

That argument, which has been used to condone the abandonment of Ethiopia, Spain and China, and may tomorrow be used against Czechoslovakia, is utterly false. Though position after position, meekly or hypocritically, has been ceded to the enemy, yet the forces of democracy and peace, mobilised and united, would still be a hundredfold stronger than the fascist armies with their rearguard of threatening economic crisis and mass upheaval.



THE ONLY ROAD. All the Generals that Franco sends to Teruel dash back to Burgos defeated.

The resources of peaceful action against the aggressor states, far from being exhausted, have not yet been tried.

The alternative is clear enough — a continuation of the "diplomacy" of Eden and Delbos, which has already helped to bring the world two major wars and the prospect of greater wars just over the skyline; a diplomacy which has helped to turn Europe into a powder magazine with the incendiaries at large and everyone waiting for the next explosion. The "Pax Eden" still reigns — with two very important exceptions — but all sense of security is gone from the world.

At the Congress of the Communist Party of France, Thorez uttered the feeling of millions of Frenchmen: "When we see the attitude of France to the Spanish Republic we must blush with shame". He declared that in returning to a correct foreign policy, as laid down in the program of the People's Front, France should "repudiate secret diplomacy and appeal to the mass of the people for their co-operation. This is indispensable. While the fate of millions of human beings is at stake we are still in ignorance of the result of the conversations between Hitler and Lord Halifax." He showed that if such methods were followed it would be impossible for the British reactionaries to justify their capitulations with the authority of democratic France, and it would also be impossible for some men in the People's Front to make excuses for their

policy on the grounds of British pressure on France.

What then are the possibilities of preventing war from spreading to far greater areas in 1938? It seems that Washington, D. C., is beginning to realise that isolation and "neutrality" are fatal. It is known that America was prepared to go a considerable way towards co-operation against Japanese aggression at the Brussels Conference which betrayed China. Britain was not, and the Conference collapsed. The same thing is seen when we contrast the American and British official reactions to the sinking of the "Panay" and the "Ladybird". The British National Government is putting the brake on Roosevelt, for the British rulers are not only concerned about British interests in China. They fear effective peaceful action because they fear a Japanese collapse, a Chinese victory, and the consequent upsurge of the colonial and semi-colonial peoples in the Far East.

In his speech on January 3rd Roosevelt answered Mussolini's boast that "Europe tomorrow will be fascist." Roosevelt declared that peace was strongly threatened by or in the nations which rejected democracy or had never known it; but democracy would be restored in the countries which today were without it and on that hope depended the peace of mankind.

If the United States takes a definite stand for collective action the position of the British National Government will be very dif-

ficult. Previously Eden and Co. have excused themselves before the people with the alibi: "The others are not prepared to do anything. Why should we act alone?" The National Government would be seriously embarrassed precisely at a time when the British Labor movement is swinging into action on behalf of Republican Spain and simultaneously is launching a campaign against the rising cost of living. With such a background we can appreciate the importance of Herbert Morrison's statement that 1938 may see elections in Britain resulting in a change in British foreign policy — coming as it does from the leader of the London County Council, a man not given to making rash statements on such a question.

It is needless to insist on the fact that a change, or even the near prospect of a change in Britain's foreign policy in the direction of collective security, would meet with an immediate sympathetic response in France.

There exists, then, the possibility of a transformation in the international situation which would be very favorable to the Spanish Republic. The forces which can play the decisive role in bringing about this transformation have been enormously strengthened by the Republican victory of Teruel, for Teruel is also the victory of the French People's Front, the British Labor movement and of all the forces of peace and progress in the world.

A. M. E.

ALL TOO QUIET



And you're the man who said he didn't believe in non-intervention.

CONTRIBUTION OF CYPRUS TO THE CAUSE OF SPANISH DEMOCRACY

Cyprus, a small island in the Eastern Mediterranean, has a population of 340,000. Cyprus, now a British colony, has been under British imperialist domination since 1878. The foreign ruler subjects the people to a life of de-



COSTAS LAPITHIOTIS
Leader in the working class movement of Cyprus.

gradation and misery. The people are bled white by excessive taxation and of exploitation by the landlords. The peasant is propertyless and works from sunrise to sunset for 8 piastres to a shilling (20 cents) a day.

The most elementary civil rights and liberties are denied to the people. Freedom of political and trade union organisation, of assembly, and freedom of the press, do not exist. Strikes are criminal offences punishable by many years of imprisonment.

The people of Cyprus have a feeling of gratitude and admiration towards the Spanish people and the Cypriots in Spain in their struggle for Spanish and world democracy.

MAKE CONTRIBUTION

The people of the islands follow with great interest the course of the war. Many enthusiastic articles were written in support of the cause of Spanish democracy. The British Government does not allow the collection of money for Spain. This is "in accordance with the policy of non-intervention" pursued by His Majesty's Government which prohibits support "to either side". However, in spite of the ban, in the small villages and towns of the island, collections were made for Spain and the sum of £4000 has been collected and sent to Spain via London. Further collections are continued in all the districts of the island.

The Cypriots of London and New York are very active in their support for Spain. Over 60 Cypriots from Great Britain and the United States of America have been fighting on the Spanish battlefields. They are with the British and American Battalions. They have participated in all the major engagements of the war. Among others are Antonis Theodoulou, from Leonalissou, and J. Rapaiouannou, from Yermasoyia, who fought with the first English-speaking Company last December at Lopera on the Cordoba Front. At that battle J. Papaioannou, well known in the Cyprus colony of London for his good work on behalf of Cyprus, was wounded in the leg. Now he's back in London. Although crippled he continues the fight. Panayiotis Katsaronas is known amongst the Cypriots of both New York and London. He was a veteran of the Greco-Turkish war. He was killed on the Jarama on February 12th. He was defending with a machine-gun and when surrounded by the fascists in Company Two (Lieut. Fry's company), he refused to give up. The fascists riddled him with bullets.

Nicos Perdikos from Rizokarpason, a quiet and steadfast comrade, was killed on the Jarama on the 14th of February, during the counter attack of the British Battalion. Nicos Vasilou from Nicosia, wounded at Brunete, Anastasios Anastasiou and Yiakoumis Georgiou, both from Ayios Elias, George Dritreou from Lapithos, Pantelis Zacharia from Yialousa, Christos Constantinou from Kerynia, Nicolas Dimitri from Panagusta, Serghios Kossi-

des from Mesaoria, only 17, the youngest Cypriot in Spain, Spyros Fantelides from Kato-Drys and Costas Lapithiotis, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cyprus, sentenced three times for political activity for Cyprus independence, are among the London Cypriots who continue the fight in Spain.

The American Cypriots are also numerous. The following six, leading members of the progressive Cypriot organisation "Pankypriaki" of New York, V. Pattikis, Jimis Joannou, Christis Christodoulou, A. Thomas, Jacovos Kummilos and Georgios Pantazis have fought at Jarama, Brunete



ANTONIS THEODOULOU
Fighter in the first English-Speaking Company of December, 1936.

and the Aragon. Georgios Pantazis, one of the founders of the "Pankypriaki", and expert machine gunner, and Christos Christodoulou were killed on the last advance on Saragossa. There was Athanasiades from Bella-Pais who received wounds at Peñaroya while with the 86th Brigade last April, also Captain Nicolaides from Lanarka.

WORLD FIGHT

The fight of the Spanish people for the defence of their democratic liberties and their national independence, is at the same time the struggle of all the colonial peoples and oppressed national minorities.

The Cypriots, who have made the supreme sacrifice and those who continue the fight, together with their colonial brothers; the Indians and the Chinese, those

JAPAN FACED WITH LIKELY REVOLT IF WAR LASTS

Japan is faced with a revolution unless the war ends immediately. That is the opinion expressed by Charles C. Batchelder, former assistant chief of the Far Eastern Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, which is a branch of the U. S. Government that keeps extremely close watch over all events affecting foreign trade. Batchelder's views are recognised as careful and authoritative. Speaking before an audience of 500 persons in Town Hall, New York City, he indicated that while such a revolt could be suppressed by the rigorous military discipline now existing in Japan, the present course of events almost made a people's rising inevitable.

China's strategy is to draw the Japanese forces further into the interior, prolong the war and increase the strain on Japanese finances and resources. Tokio has therefore resorted, he pointed out, to a series of crushing taxes imposed on both the industrial and agricultural workers who form the bulk of the population. Specifically, he declared, more than half the soil under cultivation is owned by eight percent of the large landlords, and everywhere a great resentment is spreading against the rich.

"As a result", he concluded, "the laboring classes are honeycombed with socialism and communism. Police have tried to curtail these sentiments, but have succeeded only in aggravating the situation."

from New Zealand and Africa, the Cubans, the Philipinos and American Negroes, the Irish, and the hundreds from the dominion of Canada, have known the life of degradation and slavery in a colonial country. It is their firm determination to continue the fight and defeat fascism, so that Spain will never become a colony. The men here represent the expression of the will and aspirations of the colonial peoples throughout the world—a victory for democracy in Spain. These men represent the symbol of unity in the field of action between the colonial peoples and the workers and progressives of all countries in their struggle against the common enemy—fascism.

MICHAEL ECONOMIDES

OVERHEARD IN CADIZ



—And who are these 100,000 men?
—Oh, just a few of our 10,000 volunteers.

ON BEARDS—A REPLY

In a recent issue of "The Volunteer for Liberty" we find a scholarly article deriding the many beard wearers in the International Brigades. A very astute and interesting article — to the beardless. But to the man with a beard! To the man with a beard that has been the envy of all Spain, this article smacks of lack of foresight and misunderstanding.

The anonymous writer of the article "What's in a Beard?" is



THE AUTHOR of this article.

addressing a limited audience. He speaks to the small group of males in the Brigade who are hairless. He speaks to the children in our midst and to those to whom "HARRY'S LOTION FOR THE HAIRLESS", despite its attractive bottle and prohibitive price, was a waste of money. He addresses the weaklings and the sops.

BEARDS' REPUTATION

Beards have played an important role in the history of our civilization. We know that Adam boasted of a foot-long beard. The left group in Egypt and their leader Moses, all were men with chin adornments. Abe Lincoln, the famous axe and shovel man, had one and in the most progressive part of the world to-day, the Soviet Union, we find the bearded in the forefront. Marx, Engels and Lenin were proud bearers of a a hirsute chin.

In Spain to-day we find grave problems confronting us. We who arrived here in the Spring of last year encountered a new country fighting for its democratic rights. We found an army in the process of unification — and we found beards. We found them covering

the necks of our leaders: Campestro, Galleani and many others had recognized their value.

HISTORIC ROLE

Why did all these men have beards? The answer is simple. The answer is shown in the example set by our French comrades in the last war. During the GRANDE GUERRE the beard was prominent amongst the men that saved Paris. Practically every taxi driver that took Joffre's men to the Marne wore one. They had ample reason. Before the end of the war they found that the beard was worth its weight in bully beef. They found, as were the anti-fascist fighters in Spain to find, that a beard on the chin is worth more than a rolling stone.

In the defense of Madrid the beard played its part. When blankets were scarce, when food was not at hand — what men were able to stand longest against the guns of the enemy? The bearded!

With a beard to chew on and to cover you at night you are invincible. When you must stand long hours on guard at the front or in line for beer in Madrid — what comfort has the beardless man? When one of the greatest shortages in Spain has made itself evident, the great lack of "cambio", who among us has helped to ease the load of the government? Who among us? Can you beardless who must visit the barber daily answer in the affirmative? NO.

ATTRACTS GIRLS

Now to the final point, a point the anonymous author in the "Volunteer" dared not even mention. The effect of the beard on the female. Visit Albacete, Madrid, Barcelona or any town in which an International Brigade may have representatives. Walk down the "Calle Mayor", the "Gran Vía", "Calle Paz", or the "Ramblas" and what do you find? You find that the beardless travel alone. But what has that handsome bearded volunteer dangling on his arm, looking fondly into his eyes and listening oh so intently? A woman. And what a woman! Invariably she will be a masterpiece. A symphony of femininity.

The effect of the beard on nur-

BALLAD OF TERUEL

The General stood in Teruel
Whence not a few had fled;
He called his brave defenders up
And unto them he said:
"Soldiers, today we stand as one
To crush the wicked Red.



"On you, my brave ten thousand men,
I know I can depend
To guard our virgin citadel
Unto the bitter end.

"My staunch five thousand, mustered here,
Will march against the foe
And die with laughter on their lips
Because they like it so.

"I place implicit faith in you,
My fine six hundred men,
And I'll repay you all in gold
One day (no matter when).



"None dare assert there's braver troops
Or fairer flowers of youth
Than the two hundred standing here
(Well, not with any truth).

"Courage, my strong one hundred hearts!
The enemy arrive!
My fifty boys, my twenty lads,
My ten, my seven, my five..."

One soldier stood in Teruel
And boldly up spake he:
"You said, today we stand as one
That one shall not be me,"
"Get off my horse!" the General roared.
(The rest is history.)



ses is well known to all our
on it minutely would be unfair
to the beardless. But I must say,
that the average woman man
bearing a beard is, without fail,
at the top of the list among
"Young Men Popular With Their
Nurses".

To close: When beards are worn
in the I. B., and you beardless are
interested in mending your ways,
wounded comrades and to touch

I say, "Ask the man who owns
one!" Viva La Barba!

M. H.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Do you
think that the growing of
"Beards" should be encouraged or
discouraged in our People's Ar-
my? Comrades with views on the
subject are urged to send in their
contributions.)

CHRISTMAS AT THE BRIGADE

In case any of the folks at home paused in the middle of their Christmas dinners to have a few sober thoughts about the boys in Spain, they will be glad to know that the boys had a very good time. The Brigade was in reserve over the festival, quarters were reasonably comfortable and the weather was fine and sunny. Units made arrangements for their own celebrations, in some cases combin-



PART of the 15th Brigade Political Commissariat staff at work.

ing; each is convinced that its own party was the best.

There was an abundance of good food, including as much meat as any man could put away. The Brigade boys ate turkey, chicken, pork, Christmas pudding and cakes. The sweeter side of the meal was largely made possible by the generosity of our friends at home, who sent parcels full of good stuff. It was a timely gift and much appreciated.

In each of the villages through which the Brigade units were distributed, the army and the people celebrated together. Music and dancing were organised, and toys and cakes given to the children, many of whom were refugees from the North. The toys included those which had been sent out from America.

When the Republican Army goes into fiesta, it does not set out to forget the war that brought it into the field. The fascists may need that sort of medicine. With us, the spirit of fiesta and military duties run side by side. Only an army that believes in what it is fighting for can combine the two. Together with the banquets and celebrations, parades and marches were organised and carried out with the same spirit. Owing to a change of timetable the Lincolns and the Twenty-Fourth Battalion were called to parade off the football field at a moment's notice. They went by as if they were used to doing it every day. Awards were made to men of the battalions who had given good service.

General Walter of the 35th Division visited the Brigade; distinguished visitors from Britain and America found their way up. Headquarters Staff were kept busy dashing from one banquet to another. A ghost appeared at the British Battalion's evening meal. Anti-Tanks claim to have gone one better with a Scarlet Woman, the



LOYALIST SOLDIERS in an S. R. I. library at the front.

central character in a sketch put on by the unit's dramatic group. The man who took this part had appeared once in public before, as the hind legs of a horse.

Brigade Commander Copic received a very fine gold watch, which had been subscribed for by all units. The following message was engraved on it in Spanish:

"To our friend and leader, Lt. Col. Copic, from all the men of the Fifteenth Brigade."

Rebellion Planned Long Ago

Fully two years before the war broke out in Spain, the reactionary groups began making arrangements with Italy. This fact is reported in a significant article written by the diplomatic correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian". "For the first time, probably, since the beginning of the war", says the article, "one of the rebel chiefs—Antonio Goicoechea, leader of the Monarchist Party called Renovacion Española—has admitted the true purposes of the insurrection".

Pointing out that since July 1936 the rebels have unceasingly declared that they never would have taken up arms if a Bolshevik revolution were not imminent, the article shows that facts and quotations prove otherwise.

In a speech at San Sebastian on November 22, Goicoechea announced openly that since March 1934, certain conservative parties—including his own—had planned to seize the government and call upon the army to rebel. "If necessary for the good of Spain", he said, "we would precipitate a civil war".

Fascists Cause Newsmen Tragedy

Two British and one American journalists were killed and another American reporter severely wounded at the beginning of Franco's desperate counter-offensive to regain Teruel from the Loyalists. From available accounts it seems that the mishap was the direct outcome of the fascists' acts of deception and denial of the facts in order to prevent their disaster from becoming known. When these reporters insisted on definite information, Franco assured them the city was still in his hands and invited them to go there and see for themselves. Under fascist escort they were led directly into the line of fire and were killed by Loyalist artillery covering the enemy rear at Teruel.

Eleven correspondents were in automobiles proceeding to the city and had come within a few kilometers of Teruel without being



warned of the peril when a shell struck the car containing the victims. They were Sheephanks, of the British Reuter Agency; Johnson, of the American magazine "Spur"; Neil, an American member of the Associated Press; and Philby, of the London "Times". The latter survives, while the bodies of the others are being shipped home to relatives.



WORKER in one of Madrid's factories which supply the War Medical Service department with metal medical equipment to be used at the front, or in the hospitals throughout Spain.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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STRONGER UNITY FORGED IN U. G. T.

The second important victory of the year has been won in the trade union field—the establishment of unity within the U. G. T. Union General de Trabajadores), the great socialist-communist trade union organisation.

In May 1937 when the Caballero Government came to an end the Executive Committee of the U. G. T. refused its co-operation in the formation of the new government unless it included Largo Caballero as President and Minister for War. Largo Caballero, in addition to being the former Premier and War Minister, was also at that time the General Secretary of the U. G. T. This demand being unacceptable to the political parties in the Popular Front, the new government was formed without the inclusion of representatives of the Trade Unions.

At its first meeting after the governmental crisis the National Committee of the U. G. T.—the highest body in the union federation—repudiated the line of the Executive Committee and pledged the support of the Federation to the Government. In addition it also made certain decisions with regard to the policy to be pursued by the Executive Committee, a policy which envisaged better relations with the political parties, with the regional U. G. T. of Catalonia, and with the C. N. T. With regard to the latter, the Executive Committee was charged with the task of preparing the ground for the unification of the two great trade union organisations.

Unfortunately, the Executive Committee under Caballero's leadership did not feel disposed towards carrying out this policy. Instead of an improvement in the relations with the political parties, the Executive Committee found reasons for disassociating themselves from any activities with which the Communist Party was in any way connected and even refused to have a speaker at the great Popular Front meeting in

Valencia on July 18 on the excuse that the platform included a communist. In the trade union field, rather than fighting for the unification of the two great union federations, in its place they formed an agreement with the C. N. T. which was nothing more than a "non-aggression" pact—a pact not for mutual activity, but a completely negative arrangement with no other object than to prevent criticism of one another.

In reply to the tremendous criticism which this policy brought forth from the unions, fourteen important unions were expelled by the executive on technical grounds. This was regarded as a manoeuvre of the Executive to eliminate the sections most critical of their actions.

Appeals to the Executive Committee to call together the National Committee to discuss the grave situation which had developed fell on deaf ears. Eventually the position became such that, on the initiative of the expelled unions, a meeting of the National Committee was called to deal with the matter. This meeting took place at Valencia on Sept. 30th. and was attended by 31 of the 42 unions in

the Federation, in addition to the Secretary of the Catalanian U. G. T. and Felipe Pretel the U. G. T. treasurer and member of the Executive Committee. At this meeting a new Executive Committee was elected under the leadership of Gonzalez Peña.

The election of a new Executive by the vast majority of the unions appeared on the face of things to be the solution of the whole question. This, unfortunately, was not the case. A few of the unions continued to support the deposed Executive and it looked as if a definite split would take place in the Federation. The spectacle of disunity within the ranks of the U. G. T. had serious repercussions in the relations with the C. N. T. and also abroad, and in order to find a way out of the difficulty a plea was made to the International Federation of Trade Unions to intervene in the matter with the object of reestablishing the unity of the Federation.

As a result of the meetings with the I. F. T. U. in Paris, Leon Jouhaux came to Spain and definite proposals were made at a meeting of the National Committee including members of the deposed

Executive Committee, which took place on the 29th. of December. The proposal was that a new Executive Committee should be formed consisting of the Executive Committee which was elected at Valencia on Sept. 30th. to which would be added four members of the deposed Executive. This proposal was agreed to by both parties and was ratified by an Extended Plenum of the U. G. T. which took place on Jan. 2nd.

The new Executive Committee of the U. G. T. now consists of fifteen members and represents the complete unity of the Federation. But not only does it represent unity, it also represents the end of personal policies within the Federation. Largo Caballero, one time General Secretary of the U. G. T., and the most powerful influence in the old Executive is not one of the four members of that committee elected to the new body. With his passing, passes the stubborn personal character of the policy which was heading the Federation to disaster.

With the election of the new Executive, a new and vigorous policy has been initiated. United as never before, the U. G. T. is taking determined steps to deal with the tremendous problems before the Spanish trade unionists. Already fresh approaches have been made to the C. N. T. on the question of unification, already amicable relations have been reestablished with the socialist and communist parties, already better relations have been made with the U. G. T. of Catalonia.

The old spirit has been cast aside, a new spirit has taken its place. In the near future we are assured of great advances in the trade union field arising out of the newly forged unity within this great trade union federation. The unified command in the army made possible the victory of Teruel; unity within the U. G. T. will make possible great victories over the difficulties in the rearguard.

A. D.



ALL LOYAL workers greet the new unity within the U. G. T. They know that this unity spells the eventual death of fascism

MORALE - THE DOMINATING WEAPON AT TERUEL

It is reported that the severity of the weather played a part in holding up the fascist winter offensive. The fascist command was unwilling to risk an attack in the intense cold, not out of consideration for their troops but because they had doubts of how the men would stand up to this added hardship. Meanwhile the Republican Army assaulted and took Teruel, under conditions which the fascists were afraid to face.

possibility of error is too wide to make anything more than a cautious speculation profitable. It is interesting to speculate. We heard stories of uprisings behind Franco's lines before Teruel was taken, and were assured of their authenticity. The desertion of the Navarrese companies proved that even the crack Spanish fascist troops cannot be relied on. Trouble is reported from Huesca, and many Spaniards are leaving rebel territory

fronts, but probably with more qualified by the uncertainty of what would happen when the new Republican Army faced the full fascist power, released from its northern preoccupations.

The outcome may well have surprised even the more optimistic of the Government's sympathisers outside Spain. Far from losing the initiative, the Army launched the biggest offensive of its career and won it in record time. Again we cannot calculate

coming, they would have risked the snow. There is every sign that they were taken completely by surprise once again. Now they are faced with the necessity of calculating over again on the basis of the new situation that has arisen following our success. They can no longer fight the war where they please.

The complementary effect to this one is, of course, the reaction on the fascist rank and file, and on all those who live in rebel territory and whose destinies, with or without their goodwill, depend upon the plans made by the fascist high command. The news must certainly have fallen very heavily on fascist Spain and considerably increased the general feeling of anxiety. The absurd lengths to which fascist propaganda was taken in the attempt first to deny, then to belittle the Republican victory, including General Castellanos's fantastic military bulletin, betray something approaching a moment of panic. The tone of Franco's subsequent Telegram to Mussolini, asking for 100,000 more men in terms which are described as servile, does nothing to dispel this impression.

SIGNS OF DESPERATION

It appears, too, that the fascist counter-attacks were launched hurriedly and with a reckless lack of forethought. Their one aim was to regain Teruel. Wave after wave was thrown at the Republican positions. They evidently believed they could retake the city by weight alone, and they seem to have considered it worth any amount of sacrifice to do so. This in itself belies their subsequent repudiation of their defeat as a matter of no vital importance; and their risky venture of sending up foreign journalists in a convoy to demonstrate that they had not lost Teruel proves both their error of judgment and the significance they attached to the result of the action.

They put everything immediately available into these efforts. They resorted to the so-called "psychological" method of attack, sending over successive lines of men in a continual forward movement, the living stepping over the dead. This manoeuvre inevitably means heavy losses, and so far the losses have been to no purpose.

OUTSIDE SPAIN

Everybody on both sides knows that the issue of this war is closely connected with the world outside Spain. Those in other countries who follow events intelligently react to the same moral influences as the troops themselves. Observers sympathetic to the Government were awaiting, as we were, the result of the full concentration of the fascist forces on the main



SCENES of the huge demonstrations celebrated in Barcelona which honoured the Republican Army for the capture of Teruel

It offers an interesting comparison in morale between the two armies. Ultimately, morale is the dominating weapon of any war, because it is the necessary basis for the good use of all others. Soldiers cannot learn to become efficient, or retain a full standard of efficiency, unless their hearts are in the job. Lapse of morale on both sides brought the last war to what some considered an untimely end. In the early days of the Spanish Civil War, the improvised militia had little else to rely on; but they did wonders with it.

FASCIST BACKGROUND

One can reckon on paper the balance of superiority between two forces in numbers, arms and equipment. It is impossible to add and subtract anything so intangible as morale. Its strength or its weakness on either of two sides can only be judged by what appears on the surface. The

for France. Low wages, high prices, unemployment even, are having their effect on those of the poorer classes who were not already hostile to Franco's regime, and increasing the bitterness of the rest. Such are the conditions of general unrest and depression behind the fascist lines at the present time. Though a mood cannot be given an index number, these items of news, as they come into Republican Spain, afford us a general picture of the Fascist background.

AFTER THE NORTH

The subjection of the North was carried out not only with brutality but with a formidable show of fascist power. While Franco's main forces were engaged in this campaign, the Government tested out its power to take the initiative and proved its ability to do so at Brunete and in Aragon. These successes were encouraging, but their significance was

the effect of this victory in terms that reach beyond the gain in ground, casualties, prisoners and captured or destroyed material, but it seems certain that the effect has gone deep in more quarters than one.

MORAL EFFECTS

In terms of morale, the outcome of Teruel is probably more far-reaching behind the fascist lines than behind our own, though in the opposite direction. With them it is two-fold. It has disoriented the plans of the command, taking out of their hands the superiority they believed they held, and depriving them of the choice of ground for any major action until and unless they win it back with an equal victory. That they were confident of possessing this superiority is made clear by the leisurely way in which they prepared for their winter offensive. An immediate action might have forestalled our own success at Teruel. Had they known what was

misgiving, as they had no direct contact with the soldiers and civilians in Republican Spain and therefore could not feel the stimulus of the spirit which prevails in Government territory and the confidence that arises from it. Teruel was a tonic for such people. The test came, and the result of it was a hundred per cent in the Government's favour. Now the whole world, including the fascist powers, have concrete evidence with which to revise their view of the position.

Mussolini can hardly fail to be convinced that Franco's telegram, however distasteful to him, is justified; but it is very questionable that he will risk sending so many men out of his own country. He is faced with a spreading instability at home, a troublesome and still unsubdued empire in Abyssinia, and conditions of growing uncertainty in Europe around him. Without these extra forces, what will Franco do? His supposed strength has dwindled visibly with his alleged position of advantage; his power of offensive now seems far less menacing than it did.

Since the beginning, Spanish fascism has made the important error of underestimating the force of morale. Perhaps this is because those in command have never had first-hand experience of its positive side. What it has been able

to accomplish has puzzled them at each successive stage of the war. After a year and a half of campaigning, they are still without sufficient imagination to understand that enthusiasm is not a childish thing. Under competent direction enthusiasm can build up and train an Army capable of winning a series of victories of increasing magnitude, the most recent of which must prove even to the most unimaginative Generals that by this time the enemy has grown up to their own level.

For us, there is only one danger that can arise out of our success, the danger of over-optimism. Teruel is called the «beginning of the end». Some estimate that two more victories of equal importance will finally break fascism in Spain. All of this may be true, but even one more victory like Teruel will need as great an effort. Teruel has given us our chance. Now more than ever is the time to concentrate on the work in hand. The fascists are not going to let this defeat go by without putting everything into an attempt to swing back the balance, whether in further counter-attacks or in a different sector. However big their losses in the action up to the present time, their resources are far from exhausted and they may import many more. They will fight, and are already fighting, with the strength of desperation, which is formidable while it lasts.



PART of the British Labour Delegation [which recently visited Spain. Left: E. Shinwell, M. P., former Minister for Mines in the Labour Government. It was he who defeated Ramsay MacDonald. Center: Hannen Swaffer, popular Daily Herald journalist who expressed confidence in Republican victory. Right: T. Williams, Miners' M. P.]

“I See Everywhere the New Army”

BY HANNEN SWAFFER

The last time I was in Madrid was Alfonso's wedding day. That was forty years ago. Then, the streets were crowded with a populace that cheered the old order, the effete monarchy of Spain, and basked in the reflected brilliance of a corrupt and repressive aristocracy. Suddenly, a few yards from where I stood at the corner of the Calle Mayor a bomb dropped.

Well, thirty years have passed, and I stand in a Madrid that is being shelled by the friends of that cruel old system. They fire on it from the heights outside in the daylight. They drop bombs on it from the air in the darkness.

Brutal and desperate, they turn their guns on wounded in the hospitals, women working in their homes, children playing in the streets. They seek to subdue by fear.

Yet, they will fail. Even when, not much more than a year ago, the people of Madrid were almost defenceless, they fought on with a few rifles. They fought for Liberty. They died for Liberty. They fight on for Liberty. There is no fear in their hearts. There is a light in their eyes. Ideals of freedom, justice and democracy burn in their souls.

The old Spain is dead. I have seen, thank God, the birth of a new Spain.

A hundred thousand homes in one quarter of Madrid are empty—evacuated by people who might die in their beds because of rebel shell-fire, had they not moved to safer quarters.

But in spite of all that, life in Madrid seems almost quiet, in spite of the barricades, in spite of the one quarter of Madrid are empty of food. There is high courage in the air.

I see everywhere the new Army, the brave youth of the new Spain transformed in a few months from civilians into fighting men, determined to die, if need be, to save for the world the principles of freedom, truth and justice.

It is an inspiration to us all. I bow in reverence in the midst of so much sacrifice. But then, raising my head in pride, I salute this brave splendid people, the pioneers of a new social order, the pioneers of a new civilization.

Down with fascism, darkness, ignorance, greed and cruelty! All hail to the Spanish people!

Fascism is wrong, liberty is right and in the long end, right must win.

AMENDS



COLUMBUS. At last! At last! Now I need never feel sorry again.



LIBERATED after more than a year under Franco's domination at Teruel, she is now in loyal territory. Does she look sorry?

Franco's German Aviation Responsible For Fall of North, Says French War Expert

(General Armengaud, author of the recent article in a Toulouse paper from which we reproduce the extracts below, is a member of the general staff of the French air force and an authority on aspects of war aviation.)

Mussolini pretends to be proclaiming something to the whole world, but he is actually trying to make the Italian people believe that his blackshirt divisions covered themselves with glory in the invasion of Spain. In reality their role has been distinctly mediocre. It was the German aviation that conquered on the Northern front. The Italian troops, as well as Franco's Spanish troops, had nothing more to do than overcome the Loyalists' badly weakened resistance and occupy their positions.

FACED HEAVY ODDS

This is affirmed by a colonel of infantry who commanded first a brigade, and later a division, at Bilbao, Santander and Gijon. He is corroborated by the former chief of staff and by the aviation commander of the Republican Army of the North. According to their evidence,



ENEMY AVIATION flying over Madrid

there can be no doubt that, with even a semblance of equality in air strength, the Government could have held out. They could have done so in spite of the fact that their troops were composed of improvised groups of untrained men, many of them in the forty year age-category. They could have done so even though their defensive organization was not entirely unified, even though the fascist artillery was superior in amount, caliber and supply of ammunition.

No attack is prepared by artillery alone. By itself the artillery

all objectives were totally destroyed front and rear.

This aviation was exclusively German. The best proof of this is the fact that of the thirty to forty planes brought down by the Loyalists in the North, all the surviving pilots were German. With its air force following a plan which is characteristically methodical, continuous, powerful and merciless, it is Germany that has played the decisive role in Spain since last spring.

There is, of course, no doubt that the situation on the Eastern



AN AVIATION factory in the rear. "The Spanish war in the air is Spanish on one side only; the other side is German and Italian"

cannot ensure the success of an attack. For such purposes, it is the aviation which produces real results. It is the aviation which breaks up the lines of defense with damage both moral and material. At the gates of Bilbao, for example, two complete Loyalist companies were lost, buried by one bombardment. There really were no genuine fascist infantry attacks. Only after days and days of incessant air raids, when the occupants of the front lines had been buried, stunned and paralyzed by bombardment, did the fascist infantry go forward.

These planes operated on the principle of mass formation. On one day alone 117 machines took the air simultaneously. They worked systematically in groups, each plane concentrating on an assigned zone, with relief groups replacing one another steadily to maintain an uninterrupted bombardment for hours. The heavy bombers were assisted by chasers, and together they bombed, machine-gunned and dropped incendiary charges until

and other fronts is already different from the North. But the facts and occurrences there indicate more than a possibility that Germany and Italy are going to increase their air strength in Spain with the view of using the same procedure as in the North. Nor will they hesitate to use the same tactics on the rear. If that does happen, the non-intervention policy will have staged a spectacle so treacherous, so hateful and so lamentable that no catastrophe in the annals of Europe could equal it.

Many French citizens still do not feel concerned at this scandalous situation. Misinformed by certain recent orators in the Chamber of Deputies, people are saying that the Spanish Government has been supplied with 540 French planes and that its whole air force is a French and Russian one.

The truth is that the Loyalist aviation is numerically smaller, though of better quality, than the fascist. The truth is that the Loyalist planes — bodies, motors and accessories — are manufactured in



THREE-MOTOR German plane brought down by one of our "Chafos"

SWEET AND LOW



Sleep, my little one, sleep.

Spain by Spaniards. The truth is that, except for a few pilots whose presence is admitted and not concealed, the entire Government air force is Spanish.

To sum up, the Spanish war in the air is Spanish on one side only: the other side is German and Italian. That is the result of a policy of non-intervention which could more accurately be called a permit of invasion.

Breadless Trip

The beauty of Benicasim has become almost legendary among men who haven't been there. It is called the Earthly Paradise. The Earthly Paradise once ran short of bread, and a comrade of the Auto-Park at the International base was detailed to drive down with a load. The prospect went to his head like wine, and he set out immediately.

Upon his arrival, the Earthly Angels came anxiously round to collect their bread. He was as surprised as they were to find that the camion was empty. In his eagerness to start, he had forgotten to call round at the bakery for his consignment.

Another story is told in the Auto-Park of a comrade who heard the air-alarm go off one night, and obedient to the standing order to man camions, rushed out of his quarters with his gas-mask on and his trousers off.

Prisoners

A distinguished visitor, being conducted round the lines, noticed a large number of men with rifles gathered round four who had none.

"Can you explain to me," he said, "Why so many guards are required for four prisoners?"

"Guards?" said his guide. "You've got it wrong. Those are the prisoners. The other four are the fellows who captured them."

Barcelona Food Collectives Flourish in New Experiments

Spain's industrial life since the beginning of the war has taken various social forms to improve not only output for the Government and people but conditions for workers. While many small establishments still remain under their original private ownership, a great number of firms have come under workers' control. Full collectivization in industry has proceeded gradually, as the situation required, but is definitely increasing by force of example. Collectives in several industries are justifying themselves by the two great fundamental tests. They help the Government in fighting the war and, at the same time, they satisfy the workers engaged in that task.

An outstanding example is the collectivization of food industries in Barcelona. The bare facts are given here. They speak for themselves.

FOOD COLLECTIVE

The Federation of Food Workers of Barcelona control 114 establishments, which vary in size and special function. Their natural link together is that they all deal in one way or another with food. Under the decree of October 24, 1936, authorizing voluntary collectivization, these separate units adopted collective form. However, they still remained individual stores or shops or hotels. Simply the inner life was collectivized. Welcome as this change was, it soon proved not quite complete. Within a few months the workers controlling the-

se units formed a full industrial collective under a single management consisting of a director, two sub-directors, a legal advisor, a permanent committee and a managing board. Every one of these functionaries was elected in a full assembly attended by all the workers connected with the 114 units. One official, an inspector, is appointed by the Catalonian Generalidad, the central government of the province.

Each unit has a responsible director named by the managing board of the collective, together with a council of workers in the specific establishment elected for that one purpose by their fellow workers.

WIDE SCOPE

The scope of the collective consists of thirty hotels and inns, three fine restaurants and five of the second class, ten large cafés, fifty-two bar cafés, five street-stands, three truck farms and several grocery stores. Also included are five large shops and warehouses, of which two are for foodstuffs, two for utensils and one for refrigeration. The collective has a sausage factory, an ice-cream factory and a conserves plant. It also has a nursery garden, a lamp factory, and sections of carpenters, painters, bricklayers and needle workers.

The membership of the collective is now more than 4000, of whom 1000 are women. The number increases steadily as new workers are added to the various units. Quite a

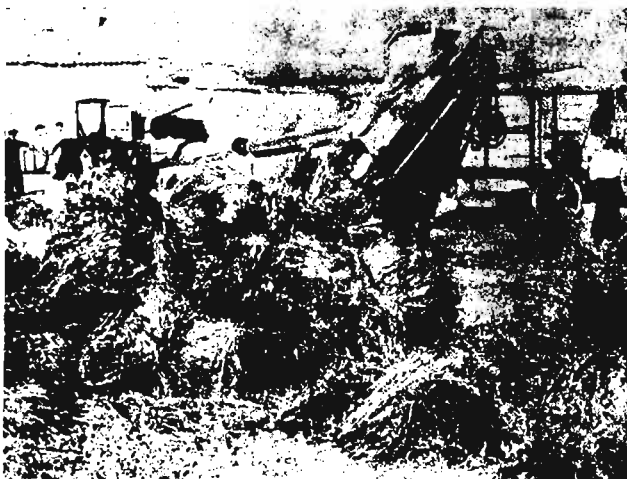
few new people were taken on recently when the popular restaurant units began a new scheme of serving meals. It was so successful that now 6000 customers are fed daily, while 5000 more are served in the other eating establishments of the organization. The daily consumption of coffee amounts to 250 kilos, making 21,000 cups. Beer, until the recent governmental rationing began in Barcelona, was used at the rate of 7,500 litres a day.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Members of the collective receive complete social welfare service. When sick they get full pay. In cases of protracted invalidism or for old age they get fifty per cent of their pay. Women members, when pregnant, receive five weeks leave on full pay. The collective has established free medical attention with a staff of specialists for all common ailments.

The two great labor federations of Spain, both U. G. T. and C. N. T., are represented in the general collective membership. However, the U. G. T. enjoys a two-to-one popularity in numbers, which is also reflected in the composition of the managing board, where of the fifteen officers, ten belong to the U. G. T.

A recent statement issued by this collectivized Federation of Food Workers of Barcelona is significant. "We cannot speak of the present economic situation of the collective," it says, "without remembering the difficulties in which many of our units found themselves at the moment of becoming collectivized. Nor can we forget the liabilities we inherited from the previous bourgeois owners which, in accordance with the law, had to be liquidated. But the food workers, all the workers of our industry, have known how to handle the enormous responsibility they assumed. We have not spared our best energies in order to bring about a transformation of the industry and to serve the people well. In this way we have overcome all the obstacles. Today we have created reserve stocks which are worth 2,000,000 pesetas, and besides that the collective has built up a fund of 2,000,000 pesetas more in cash for emergencies."



PART of a collective at work.



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BARCELONA

JANUARY 29 — 1938

FORTIFICATION

With the conclusion of the Aragon campaigns and the approach of winter, the Republican Army occupied itself with strengthening its defences against the long-expected and much publicised fascist attack. The importance of this work was emphasised in view of the nature of events immediately to come, which, it was generally recognised, would be critical and perhaps decisive. The passing of the initiative into the hands of the Government does not mean that the study of fortifications is less important than it was.

It would be short-sighted to suppose that the fighting round Teruel has eliminated the possibility of a big fascist push. It is as necessary as ever to strengthen our defences in every sector of the line. The necessity increases with the development and intensification of trench warfare.

Defending troops, if they are able to break the first impetus of an offensive without serious loss of ground, have every opportunity of reversing the movement of the battle. Hence the importance to the enemy of the element of surprise, and the importance to us of being ready at any time and in every place. The losses of men and morale among the attacking forces will be proportionately greater as they fail to gain their objectives. When they have exhausted their first strength without effect, they are left in a very vulnerable position. From lines which are still intact, the forces formerly on the defensive can now launch a counter-attack with the advantage in their hands. The organisation behind their lines is undisturbed, and men and material can be brought up along the prepared lines of communication. Under such conditions the weapon of counter-attack is very powerful. Obviously its effectiveness depends on the extent to which the enemy's attack has been resisted.

Knowledge of the principles of fortification is as essential in an offensive as in a defensive action. When our infantry first drove forward in the movement to encircle Teruel, the engineers of one Brigade were unable to follow up and dig their new positions. The infantry had to do their own digging, though it meant giving up valuable hours of sleep. They fortified themselves so effectively that they successfully held the violent fascist counter-drives. During these actions, every machine-gun maintained continuous fire, which means that every gun position had a fully effective fire-field—a tribute to the seriousness with which our Army had studied the technical lessons of fortification. The counter-attacks cost the fascists forty per cent of their men.

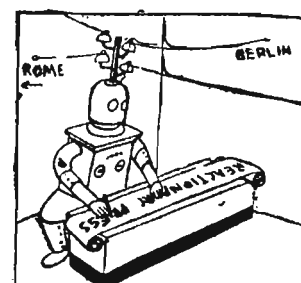
As soon as an attack ceases to move forward, whether or not the objective has been gained, the attackers become defenders. The reaching of an objective is never more than half the battle, and is certainly not the time to rest. Work has to be done quickly and positions chosen without lengthy deliberation. At such a time an experienced eye is worth any amount of enthusiastic ignorance. It is then that the value of training is amply proved.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

WEST POINT, Sandhurst and all the other famous military schools are studying the operations at Teruel, but the fascist radio at Valladolid has its special brand of strategy. It goes like this: "The Reds used a typical Bolshevik deception. Because the ground was completely covered with snow, they put on white blankets and were thus able to sneak up without being seen in time."... MUSSOLINI keeps an army of 250,000 in Ethiopia. How many is he going to keep in Spain—permanently?... THE ITALIAN newspaper "Lavoro Fascista" states: "The exodus of peasants from the land has left some localities completely depopulated. The position of sharecroppers in Tuscany is such that they can no longer exist." Papers in Francoland, please copy... GERMAN unemployment is going up, latest figures reveal, which do not, however, include the famous engineers who once worked on fortifications

nese rank-and-file. It never goes into action except against bandits, and it is only when the enemy is actually sighted that bullets are distributed to the soldiers, with unused bullets carefully collected later. Is it lack of ammunition or lack of confidence, or does it make much difference?... QUEIPO DE LLANO

THE EDITOR'S DESK



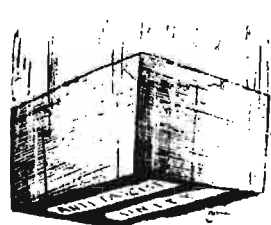
He got brains

NO, the good old ass of Seville, put his head into it and came up with an idea about Teruel. He says the "Reds" got the place because the garrison commander surrendered without permission from his superiors... THE SULTAN OF MOROCCO underwent an operation the other day. It was slight. Teruel was much more painful... HEARST reporters in Francoland wear the fascist uniform, while the correspondent of a conservative London daily, just returned from rebel territory, remarked "Damn it all, sometimes one would really rather be writing for the Daily Worker."... A BURGOS editorial



at Teruel... THE COUNT of Covadonga, son of ex-king Alfonso, has just divorced his second wife in Cuba. Atta boy! Now he's going to put all he's got into winning the war... THE MANCHUKUO ARMY has Japanese officers and Chi-

TERUEL'S EVE



BENITO... And as for their damned Republican Army, we'll crush it to pulp.



says: "Franco will save Spain." In what country is Teruel?... THE BRITISH army was lately reformed with a lot of talk about progress. Maybe that's why the family of an airman, killed in a recent crash, received a letter of condolence with a postscript requesting payment of the dead man's unsettled mess account... SEVILLE has a typhoid epidemic. Also Queipo de Llano... "THAT he feels himself closely allied to the Jewish assassins of Red Spain is only a case of common blood and identical mentality. Charley Chaplin is fundamentally a Jew." That's from Hitler's pal, Julius Streicher, who simply cannot pronounce the word "anti-fascist."...

IF FRANCO RESORTS TO POISON GAS-

In my former article I described the more important types of gas, and their use by attackers. I gave what I thought to be the reasons why Franco has not used them, and suggested that, if he does so, it will probably be before the hot weather starts. I will now deal briefly with the defensive side of the problem.

SPANISH MASK GOOD

Several comrades have criticized the Spanish army mask, and suggested to me that it is far inferior to the British. It will not give protection against gas for quite so long as the British. But we may be sure that gas will not be used in Spain in the vast quantities which were possible in a country so well provided with roads and railways as northern France. Further, it is easier to run in the British mask than the Spanish. On the other hand the Spanish mask is solidier, and far more easily made. I certainly should not ask anything better for myself.

The main absorbent is a specially prepared charcoal, which has the great merit of stopping *all* gases and vapours of a fairly high boiling point, regardless of their chemical composition. The idea of a new gas which will get past it is almost certainly bunk. Besides the charcoal, there is a pad of felt to stop smokes.

OTHER SAFE METHODS

A great many masks have been lost. Now we may be sure that the enemy will not use gas in defence, but only as part of a carefully prepared attack, or counter-attack. It therefore seems a doubtful policy to send men into an attack with masks. It might be better to send these up with spades, ammunition, and the like, when the line is consolidated. It must be remembered that if you lose your mask you not only endanger your life, but increase the strain on the government's factories.

After your mask, your second line of defence is a gas-proof room or dugout. Such a room must not have a fire, which will either draw air in from outside, or, if the room is really gas-tight, will suffocate the inhabitants. Windows should be shut. If they are broken, wet blankets or curtains should be gas-proof, and a wet blanket hung over the door. If possible, get a wooden frame, and tack the blanket to it except at the bottom, where a man

The Second and Final Article Telling What Gas is and How to Fight it

PROF. J. B. S. HALDANE

can lift it and crawl in. A wooden strip sewn to the bottom will make it fall back into position afterwards.

During a bombardment with a non-persistent gas or smoke, positions must be held, as the enemy can follow up such an attack in a few minutes. But until the enemy infantry appears, most men should stay in dugouts. If they are gas-proof there is no need to wear masks in them. But when in doubt always put your mask on.

MUSTARD GAS

Mustard gas is another matter. The enemy will not advance over contaminated ground for several days. So a small area splashed with dichlor-ethyl-sulphide should be evacuated unless it is to be held at all costs, the cost in this case being some nasty blisters. Put your mask on the moment you smell mustard and keep it on till you get orders to the contrary. The nose soon gets fatigued and ceases to smell the gas, and many have died from taking their masks off too soon.

If a drop of liquid dichlor-ethyl-sulphide falls on your skin from a spray or shell burst, wash it off wi-

thing two minutes with water, wine, or urine and rub the place with soap, cloth, or earth, till the skin is red. If your clothes are splashed, get them off in five minutes, or you will blister. Even boots are penetrated within half an hour. Wash drops off your rifle with water, urine, or wine, followed by oil if you have it. Leave contaminated objects in the sun and air as long as you can without touching them.

Dugouts and gas-proof rooms are particularly useful against mustard gas. But a single comrade entering such a room with the liquid on his clothes or boots may poison a whole number. Protection against mustard gas is greatly helped if troops have chloride of lime for decontaminating ground, boots, and arms, and if cotton or paper soaked in substances which detect the vapour are available. But these are not in any way essential.

CALM IN EMERGENCY

A comrade without a mask is in danger, but is not certain to perish, during a gas attack. He can often take refuge in a dugout. If not, a certain amount of protection is gi-

ven to the lungs by breathing through a wet muffler or other loose fabric. Wet it with water, wine, or urine, but there is no ad-



SNOWMAN IN MADRID

Franco, Franco,
Generalissimo,
The little kids are making you
Of effigies in snow.

Of you, Franco,
Generalissimo!
They're making you and mocking you
With ordinary snow.

You know, Franco,
Generalissimo,
If little kids mix hate and fun —
You know how they will grow.

Franco, Franco,
Generalissimo!
Command your cannon's hardest steel
To strike and lay them low!

If not, Franco,
Generalissimo,
It happens as the sun comes up —
You melt as does the snow.

M. MICKENBERG

vantage in the last. I tried it in 1915.

If you have no mask, and start running during an attack with non-persistent gas, you will merely breathe ten times as much as usual, and die ten times as quick. On the other hand you had better run from an area contaminated with mustard gas. Get out of the area, and do not go just to leeward of it, but don't run too far!

Above all, remember that gas is not supernatural, that it did not win the 1914-18 war, and is unlikely to win this one. It can be met by the proper use of masks, and above all by discipline. Exactly like an air raid, a gas attack will cause ten times as many casualties among undisciplined as disciplined troops. And it may cause a panic.

In the event of a gas attack I am sure that the International Brigades will set an example of calm and discipline to their Spanish comrades, as they have done in other emergencies.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PARIS. — The French Minister of Foreign Affairs issued an official statement denying all rumors that the Spanish People's Army in its Teruel operations was directed by French military officers. It also stated that "the fantastic reports concerning the number of French citizens killed or wounded at Teruel as members of that army are completely denied by their own exaggerated contents".

AMSTERDAM. — The increasingly reactionary government of Holland has sentenced Fritz Adler, secretary of the Second International, to four months in jail for entering the country without proper papers.

MADRID. — The Basque people of New York City have sent General Miaja another ambulance to be used on "our front of liberty".

LANGLEY FIELD, Virginia. — Making an elaborate test flight, a new U. S. Army bomber crossed the continent (a distance of 3,700 kilometers) in eleven hours. It sets a new record for this type of plane, which has four motors, weighs sixteen tons and is called "The Flying Fortress".

BERLIN. — The British Ambassador was forced to make an official protest to the German Government because of the violent series of attacks launched in the Nazi press against the action of Great Britain in invoking the Treaty of Minorities of 1919 on behalf of the Jews of Rumania, recently deprived of their civic rights by the new fascist regime. The Nazi press slander has been officially stopped.

ALICANTE. — A Dutch vessel, the "Hannah Holland", bound

for Valencia with a cargo of wheat and beans, was torpedoed and sunk off the coast at Alicante. Government patrols succeeded in rescuing the entire crew. As usual, the pirate submarine was unidentified.

PARIS. — When an official Japanese delegation came to the Farman aircraft plant, the workers immediately downed tools and organized a demonstration of protest in the streets outside the factory. One of their slogans was "Planes for China and for Spain". The Japanese departed hastily, whereupon the workers went back to the job. Their union representatives warned the plant management that similar steps would be taken against delegations from any fascist or aggressor nation.

SOFIA. — The Workers' Party of Bulgaria, preparing for the national elections in March, has called for the formation of a Popular Front. Appeals have been sent to the other working class parties as well as to those representing the democratic, liberal and radical forces of Bulgaria.

MEXICO CITY. — Notices from Central America indicate that a revolutionary uprising has begun in Guatemala against dictator-president Ubico. The nature of his government and the condition of the people of Guatemala can be understood from the fact that Ubico was one of the first to recognize the Franco regime in Spain and that he has maintained close relations with Hitler. He was one of the founders of that league of Central American dictatorships which agrees that political refugees from any of the member countries will be sent back immediately for proper treatment in the country from which they were forced to flee. A rigorous censorship is in effect to prevent more definite news from coming out.

BUCHAREST. — Settling a deep-seated dispute that has existed for six years, the Liberal Party and the Liberal Dissidents of Roumania have consolidated their separate organizations. They announce that the fascist threat of the newly formed government demands the unification of all liberty-lovers.

LONDON. — The widow of James P. Connolly, hero of Ireland's Easter Week uprising of 1916, is on the point of death at the age of 68. The original Irish Company of the Lincoln Battalion, which took the name of Connolly as its own, was her special pride.

Strange Experience under Mosquito Crest

A ghost story of the war has come our way. Readers may interpret it as they please; the comrade who tells it offers no explanation, nor shall we. Here it is.

Comrade C. went into the Brunete offensive with the British Battalion. Villanueva de la Cañada was taken, and the Battalion moved forward to positions under Mosquito Crest. C. found cover for himself, and crouched down. He was lying alone.

impression was completed by the man's helmet, which had a certain shape and marks which C. also connected with his friend. Something in the way the man was lying aroused C's suspicions, and he decided to crawl across.

It took him some time to edge over the intervening space. When he arrived, he found that this was his friend as he had supposed, and he was dead. Evidence showed that he had died very recently. C. was puzzled, since to his knowledge the Americans were in a different part of the battle, and this man had no reason to be here. He decided to take any papers that might be in his friend's pockets, in case there was anything he would have liked to have preserved. Before he could do so, a bullet hit the ground close to him, and another followed. It was too dangerous to stay where he was, so he made his way back without the papers. Shortly afterwards he was wounded and was taken away to a hospital.

Some weeks later, when being moved from one hospital to another, he was waiting on a station platform for a train. He saw someone he knew walking down the platform, and following a little behind, a man wearing the scarf he had last seen on his friend's dead body. As they drew level, he was astonished to find that the wearer of the scarf was its original owner, the man he had found dead beneath Mosquito Crest.

This man had never been in the Brunete action. He was on an entirely different front at the time.



Presently he noticed that somebody else was lying a short distance away. It surprised him, for he had seen nobody arrive. The man wore a scarf that was immediately familiar to C. The colours and pattern were unmistakable. It belonged to an American friend who had bought it when he had gland trouble. The

MISTAKE SOMEWHERE



Don't stretch out your hand like that, you fool. I don't want them to know that I'm a fascist



SPANISH WOMEN mending soldiers' clothes near the front lines



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. 11 - No. 4

Barcelona, February 5 - 1936



SCENES of the burial services held in Tarragona to pay tribute to the four British seamen killed while working on the S. S. Thorpness by bombs dropped from Hitler's planes.

To Carry on as British Sailors, Says Captain of bombed Ship

The airmen made a direct attempt to bomb my ship, said Captain C. E. Roberts of the S. S. Thorpness, on January 22, two days after a bombing raid to Tarragona of fascist airmen in planes recognized as Italian.

We had just returned from the funeral of the four sailors who are known to have been killed. Three more are still missing, perhaps blown to unrecognizable bits. We were talking together on the badly damaged bridge of the ship. On the decks below a number of Labour M. P. who had attended the funeral, were examining the wreckage.

ATTACK DELIBERATE

The Captain pointed to a 28 foot Union Jack stretched across the top of the wireless room. «That flag is clearly visible to aircraft», he continued, «and the airmen must have known that they were attacking a British boat».

«I may say it was deliberate, because all three bombs were aimed at us. All hit the quayside, killing seven of my men who

were making for shelter. We had been unloading our coal in the port of Tarragona for 18 days and there have been no less than three deliberate attacks on us. Last Sunday three planes dropped bombs 200 feet from the ship and the Wednesday before that, three bombs were dropped on the quay side».

TRIBUTE PAID

The four British sailors were carried to their final resting place in the tiny British cemetery of Tarragona, amidst scenes that expressed the great sorrow and indignation of the Spanish people. The small group of British who marched in silent tribute behind the four plain coffins, could feel this deep sympathy of the people who turned out in thousands for the funeral procession. Headed by the ship's officers and crew, the Labour members of Parliament, representatives of the Spanish government and the Mayor of Tarragona, the procession was saluted by soldier and civilian.

(Continued on page 8).

C. N. T. National Plenum on Record for Antifascist United Action

The Amplified National Plenum of the C. N. T. (National Confederation of Labour) which began in Valencia on January 15, held its final session on January 25. In addition to the members of the various Local and Regional Committees some 600 delegates were present from all parts of loyalist territory. It is claimed that the C. N. T. now has 1,700,000 members in Republican Spain. The Plenum sent telegrams of greetings to the International Federation of Trade Unions, the French General Confederation of Labour and to the British Trade Unions.

It was decided to decrease the number of National Federations of Industry to 14. They are now as follows:

- Agricultural, Fishing and Food Industries.
- Metal Industries.
- Transport.
- Health Services.
- Textile Industries.
- Leather Industries.
- Building and Lumber Industries.
- Water, Gas and Electricity.
- Theatres and Cinemas.
- Banks, Insurances, etc.
- Teaching.
- Communications.
- Chemical Industries.
- Public employees, etc.

A suggestion was also made for the establishment of a Trade Union Bank jointly maintained by the C. N. T. and the U. G. T.

Before the closing of the Plenum the National Committee of the C. N. T. made the following declaration:

1. The C. N. T. ratifies the line which has been followed since July 19, 1936 with the aim of achieving unity of action between all the organisations forming the antifascist block. This unity of action should be guided by a pro-

gram worked out in common by all organisation and parties which indicating the path to be followed in order to win the war and to restore our economy, which was destroyed by the treason of the army.

In view of the difficulties of our struggle and its conviction that all energies must be united, the Plenum is in favor of once and for all abandoning profuse words and of passing to practical deeds.

2. The C. N. T. persists in its aim of attaining unity of action with the U. G. T. Unity of action must be founded on a concise and concrete program according to which both sides should be equally responsible for the carrying out of the tasks lying before them in the economic and constructive field. Such tasks lie in the province of the trade unions, which are the basic pillars of the new society.

3. The C. N. T. heartily disapproves of the systematic attacks on the legal development of the Trade Unions and the Collectives. The C. N. T. considers indispensable a Government antifascist in character, but which is absolutely divorced from the sectarianism of the various parties. This will only be achieved by the proportional representation of each political party and organisation in the Government. Only if these conditions are fulfilled does the C. N. T. consider that it is possible to hasten our advance along the path to final victory, the achievement of which it does not for one moment doubt. This will be the victory of the independence of Spain and for the general emancipation of the producers. The C. N. T. has given and will continue to apply all its energies to the task of attaining victory.

Salud, comrades at the fronts, heroic and unselfish defenders of Freedom! Salud, heroes of the rear who do not spare their efforts in the places of production! Salud, all anti-fascists, without distinction of creed!

MacPaps Under Fire

The MacPaps came up to join the Brigade after Belchite with the title of the Model Battalion. They were the first English-speaking volunteers to benefit from the new policy of intensive training. When they went into action at Fuentes de Ebro they proved the value of the new policy, if it needed proving.

Fuentes was a good all-round test for a new unit. They faced the usual pleasures —artillery, avions, mortars, grenades and the less obtrusive dangers of rifle and machine-gun fire. They went over the top, and only the barbed wire stopped them. What they took, they



then the gun would have to be moved. Whenever a new position was taken up, he, as cabo, was responsible for the final choice, and for seeing that the field of fire was sufficiently clear. In action he directed the firing.

This man experienced his stiffest half-hour when the Battalion was going into position. Trenches were shallow, communications not always continuous. He carried the barrel of the gun, crawling on his stomach. The barrel is no light weight even when you have a free choice of how you will carry it. Here and there he had to make a dash for it, risking whatever there was.

Of the many stories of bravery that could be told after every action only a few come to light, as a rule the incidents of a more spectacular nature. Sometimes the less romantic adventures involve a greater strain. The cabo tells of one comrade who spent a whole night looking for wounded men in no-man's land and bringing them in. He gave up his sleep to do it.

One night a file of men appeared, moving dimly in the dark and heading for the fascist lines. Those who were in that section of the trench grabbed their guns. One



SUPPLYING the batteries with the stuff it takes,

Graduates Pledge to Victory

(On the occasion of their graduation from the 15th. Brigade Officers Training School, English-speaking and Spanish comrades took the following pledge on January 16, 1938):

We, the graduates of the second Officers Training School, hereby pledge with all our hearts to carry high the standards of the 15th Brigade of the Spanish Army; we pledge to continue our studies in order to carry to completion the training of our units within the Spanish Regular Army; we pledge to carry into our work a crusading spirit for the improvement of our technique and the application of the military principles we have had the opportunity of studying.

We pledge an eternal fight against fascism wherever it may be found and in whatever guise it may hide; we pledge to the international working class that we will fulfill the trust they have placed in us; we pledge to the working masses of our countries, our mass organisations, that we will carry out the missions for which they sent us to Spain.

We pledge to carry out our tasks at the front in a militant and disciplined manner, to aid in the defeat of Franco and his foreign allies and thus deal a deadly and lasting blow to fascism; we pledge in the rear and at the front to bring this war to a quick and successful conclusion.

Signed:

Ivor Rae Hickman, Jack Roberts, Andrew Mitchell, Ramon Castel, Archibald Cook, J. Lyons, Thane Summers, Louis Carter, Milton Weiner, Henry Buska, Faisne Surin, Mack Coal, Morris Davies, Leo Kaufman, Joseph Hecht, Murray Nemeroff, George Watt, Albert Fanchil, William Bell, Bill Mc Chrystal, T. W. Gregory, Jack Corrigan, John Mc Grandle, Jack Reid, Joseph Vaughan, J. W. Croll, Harry Dobsen, Bert Ramero, Rubin Ryant, Robert N. Turner, James A. Gunning, Joe Latus, John Coward, Herbert S. Conner, Samuel Wren, Marion B. Massey, William Boyak, Maurice Bloom, John Rody, Hitchcock, G. Buck.

never knows. Guns can't be grabbed too quickly when something unfamiliar appears in the dark. Fortunately, someone heard an English voice. The file was a British machine-gun group looking for their battalion. When the MacPaps told them where they were and where they were going, they stepped off the skyline pretty quick.

Another man describes how he heard the fascist avions approaching for the first time, and looked round at two or three machine-guns and their crews posted near him. They can't miss a target this size, he thought. He waited, but nothing fell — which proves that he who waits doesn't get everything.

The MacPaps' early training seems to have given them a taste for more. Some smart remarks on manoeuvres went up on the machine-gun company's wall newspaper when the Brigade were last in reserve. The MacPaps wanted bigger and better realism. One contributor complained indignantly of the behaviour of a certain unit of the opposing side during the Brigade manoeuvres. This unit persisted in carrying out a flank attack after he had wiped it out.

The thirst for realism prompted

the MacPaps to suggest to the British Battalion before the manoeuvres began that they take up their positions in the dark, as they would under actual campaign conditions. The British reply was polite but firm.

REX ET IMPERATOR



Peep-bol! Anyone seen my empire lying around?

The Brigade Intendencia

The Intendencia of the 15th Brigade is a small group, less than forty men, but among them you will find a former regional president of a political party, two former prisoners of the fascists, a battalion commissar, veterans of Valencia street fighting and the July days round Madrid and a political exile from the United States. These comrades, together with the others,



DISHING out the grub from the camión at the front

bear the responsibility of feeding, clothing and outfitting the Brigade. Any morning you will find them working, some lugging sacks of rice, garbanzos, meat, bread and potatoes, some measuring out oil and wine, some distributing clothing or patiently explaining the necessity for returning even the last unmatched dirty sock for washing and reclamation. They constantly war against waste, and you might meet them at a Brigade Staff meeting still explaining. Through their arguments you can see the general economic policy of the Government. When they speak against waste you can see the tremendous growth of the People's Army and the Government's determination to clothe and feed them all.

SPARE TIME FOR STUDY

Or perhaps you might see them in a spare hour teaching each other. One comrade teaches arithmetic and higher mathematics, another teaches reading and writing, so that



FOOD prepared while travelling

today there is no one illiterate in the unit. Geography and current history are also taught. Others prepare the wall paper, which do credit to any battalion.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

Twenty or more women are employed to wash, iron and repair the clothing of the men. Four shoe repairmen turning out an average of 19 repaired shoes a day compose what is known as the "servicio recuperación" which helps to save the Government a great deal.

Tobacco is purchased from the army agency and resold at cost to the various units by the Intendencia. The cigarettes and foods sent in liberal quantities from abroad are also portioned out by the Intendencia.

When the Brigade moves, and as a shock brigade it moves often, the Intendencia provides the cold rations at the starting point; it sees to it that additional quantities are supplied along the way as needed.

The Brigade canteen is of a most complete character. It supplies the comrades with practically anything they require, at a reasonable price.

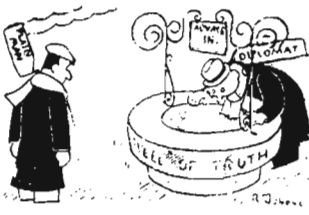
The 15th Brigade Intendencia is part of a tremendously important organization—the General Inten-



THE WATER WAGON

dencia of the People's Army. It has its roots deep in the economic and agricultural life of the Spanish people. It is a link between our Brigade and the workers of the fields and factories which we are helping to defend.

BLAME IT ON THE WEATHER



... What does she say about Spain? Sorry, old man. Can't get an answer, well's frozen over.

Jura de los graduados

(En ocasión de sus graduaciones de la Escuela de Oficiales de la 15 Brigada, Camaradas Españoles y anglo-americanos han prestado el siguiente juramento en el día 16 de enero de 1938.)

Nosotros, graduados de la segunda Escuela de Oficiales, prometemos con todo corazón llevar alto las banderas de la XV Brigada y del Ejército Español; prometemos continuar nuestros estudios para llevar a cabo la instrucción en nuestras Unidades del Ejército Español; prometemos poner en nuestro trabajo un espíritu de sacrificio para mejorar la técnica y aplicar mejor los principios militares que hemos estudiado y deseamos aprovechar.

Prometemos luchar eternamente contra el fascismo, sea donde sea y contra cualquiera apariencia que se oculte; prometemos justificar a la clase obrera internacional la confianza que tiene en nosotros; prometemos a la masa obrera de nuestro país y a las organizaciones de masas, que cumpliremos la misión para la cual nos han mandado a España.

Prometemos llevar a cabo nuestra tarea en el frente con disciplina militar, tomar parte en la derrota de Franco y sus aliados extranjeros y dar un golpe de muerte al fascismo; prometemos igualmente tanto los del frente como los de la retaguardia terminar la guerra lo más pronto posible y con el triunfo más completo.

Rafael Ortega, Valeriano Navarro, Juan Martínez, Pedro Bayona, José Torres, Angel Delgado, Emilio Sánchez, José López, Andrés Serrano, D. Caronzmack, Fulgencio Aparicio, Ernesto Figueras Pascual, Nauribatro, Rafael Andrés, Marcos Moreno Jerez, Juan Traver Caldach.

Firmado:

Rafael Ortega, Valeriano Navarro, Juan Martínez, Pedro Bayona, José Torres, Angel Delgado, Emilio Sánchez, José López, Andrés Serrano, D. Caronzmack, Fulgencio Aparicio, Ernesto Figueras Pascual, Nauribatro, Rafael Andrés, Marcos Moreno Jerez, Juan Traver Caldach.

Dombrowski Brigade Helps Peasants Gather Olive Crop

When they were resting in a small Aragon village recently, the members of the Dombrowski (Polish) International Brigade offered their services to the local peasants and volunteered to help them gather the olive crop which this season has been an extraordinarily heavy one.

In fact, precisely as a result of the heavy crop and of the fact that so many of the peasants' sons are fighting at the front, the olive crop was at one time threatened with ruin if it could not be picked before the commencement of the severe winter frosts. The action of the Dombrowski Brigade in offering their services provided the peasants with 1,000 men who in the short space of two days picked some 40 tons of olives.

This act of sacrifice on the part of the soldiers, who gave up two days of their well-earned rest to help the peasants is merely another illustration of the mutual understanding which exists between the Army and the people



in loyalist Spain. It also shows that the soldiers of the Army will, when the time comes, be the first to consolidate the establishment of the peace and to work for the building up of a new society.

Indeed it seems more than a coincidence that the olive branch is the symbol of peace.

WHAT'S IN A POSTER?

The magnificent posters of Loyalist Spain are one of its most obvious and impressive features. In a flashing combination of color, image, symbol and slogan, the posters are helping to light the way to victory. They carry their clarion messages over the length and breadth of the country. They tell, teach and inspire from the walls and windows of the cities, from telephone poles and spaces along the roads into the villages and farming regions. They reach the front itself on the walls of brigade headquarters and battalion library dugouts.

EFFECT GREAT

The influence of these posters has been tremendous. Among a people with a high percentage of illiteracy but also with a developed capacity to appreciate a true appeal to their senses, the posters have

achieved results impossible to other media. It is, of course, obvious that posters are the most common and everyday means of public announcement known to modern civilization. But the Spanish people's genius has taken it and raised it to perhaps the most brilliant height of expression and effectiveness ever reached. To those of us coming from countries where pretty posters by the million compete with each other hysterically in the clasp of bargain days, bankruptcy sales and the latest Hollywood epic it has been a revelation to see the splendid examples recording and proclaiming the deepest fundamentals of struggle against the worst enemy of mankind.

New posters are always appearing, as new problems and situations arise. At present, for instance, the winter campaign series is most prominent. They call for contributions of clothing, blankets or money to

provide additional comfort for the People's Army. In the many millions of pesetas donated by the public to supplement the Government's issue of winter supplies, these stirring posters have played a substantial role. Gradually this series is being replaced by posters pointing out the needs of children, and already toys and shoes and warm underwear are being distributed to youngsters as a result of the opening appeals. This quick flexibility of the poster, adapting itself to the dictates of the moment, is perhaps its outstanding advantage.

TIMELY

Despite their abundance and frequent changing, certain posters have become classics of the war. They stand out in memory long after new posters have taken the best positions on display. Favorites are natural. But the really significant thing is that these perennials are those which most perfectly combine a vivid portrayal of the immediate situation, a clear solution and a dramatic call to action. Thus the double celebration in November of the twentieth anniversary of the Russian Revolution and the first anniversary of Madrid's defence covered Spain with an exhibition which showed not only gladness and triumph but also consciousness of the ultimate goal each represented. Likewise, the homage recently rendered to the International Brigades on their first year in action produced a set of posters showing them in various aspects but all summing up the truth, living and fighting in the heart of every International volunteer, that still "the front of Madrid is the front of the world".

LIFE IN OLD POSTERS

On the twelfth anniversary of the death of Pablo Iglesias, founder of the Socialist Party of Spain, the placards of all organizations participating in the memorial emphasized that unity of all the workers would be his slogan now.

Certain posters may be called ancient, considering the concentrated onrush of event and change since they appeared. But their fundamental truth still holds good. Standing like a monument in its unchanging lesson is the stark stabbing poster demanding "Silence in the rearguard, the enemy is listening" with its leering death's-head and crossed streaks on the mouth to keep it shut. An example that has survived almost from the

beginning of the war shows the peasant with his hoe, the mechanic with his hammer and the soldier with his bayonet, all side by side, lunging forward shoulder to shoulder in an invincible advance of unity.

Another old but still living poster shows a panic-stricken woman shielding a baby with her own body from enemy bombers overhead, while Loyalist soldiers staunchly hold the lines in the background.



The slogan is "Evacuate Madrid the better to defend it", and is as true today as before. An example of pile-driving emotional power is the appeal for aid to the refugees of the North. It shows an Asturian miner, gaunt and hard-pressed in his lonely valor, but grimly ready to hurl his dynamite.

AMONG THE FIRST

Unforgettable is the discontinued series of Fifth Regiment recruiting posters, probably the very first to appear after the war began. Calling upon men and women, they were posted throughout the land almost overnight, burning like beacons, ringing like bells. Volunteers arose everywhere in response to the call to form those pioneer shock battalions that bore the names "Leninград", "Paris Commune", "Battalion of Steel" (composed 100 % of metal workers) and others. In rallying the 70,000 Spanish fighters who quickly joined the regiment, these clarion posters did their share. The last one shows the Fifth Regiment voluntarily blending itself into the People's Army emerging from all the militia units.



THE FIRST RECRUITING poster, which was printed in large quantities and distributed throughout all cities and towns of importance in Spain

BASIC PURPOSE

Naturally the mood of most Loyalist posters is a terrific fighting spirit strength, preparation, organization, unity and more strength to carry out the tasks of the war. That all-important purpose is never forgotten. But other characteristic moods of Spain are not omitted. There is pride and warmth in those showing women taking their place in the lines of liberty. There is love and tenderness in those appealing for the welfare of orphans and little children. There is bitter and withering scorn in the satirical posters exposing rumor-mongers, speculators, ultra-leftists, café-strategists, and other annoying or dangerous enemies of the people.

The creators of this powerful instrument of the poster deserve tribute. Organized union men, the artists, draftsmen, lithographers and printers enjoy no privileges for their responsibility. They work in cities under shell-fire and bombardment, on short rations of food and fuel, often without enough electric power for light on their drawing boards or current in the printing machinery. But they carry on their work as consistently and courageously as possible. Their stream of pictorial enlightenment



flows on without interruption.

In this great outpouring are posters representing the Government Ministries, the various political parties, the syndical organizations, many individual trade unions, the Socorro Rojo, the Friends of the Soviet Union, mass organizations and the Popular Front itself. Any and all organized opinion may deliver its message. But arguments of viewpoint are never stressed. The posters of Loyalist Spain are the symbol and record of anti-fascist unity.

Perhaps these posters are not works of art. If art, as somebody



FROM LOOSE bands of militiamen to a highly organized and technical People's Army. This is the achievement of Republican Spain today. This New Army has proven that it can inflict serious defeats on Franco's legionnaires, and that it is headed toward final victory in spite of the foreign aid lent to the Spanish fascists.

once described it, is "emotion recollected in tranquillity", they cannot be. For there is no herenity in a land struggling to preserve the fundamentals of life. The whole meaning of that struggle is brought into these posters, unifying problem and solution in one simultaneous stroke. To see is to understand; to understand is to act. That is the guiding principle. It may not produce formal art, but Spain's art is being taken care of in other ways. Nevertheless the rich traditions and

profound achievements of El Greco, Velasquez, Goya and Murillo clearly exist in these emergency expressions. The museums of vic-

torious Spain and the archives of the international working class will give these posters a place of highest honor.

"I HAVEN'T DONE ENOUGH"

One guy all the Lincoln-Washington fellows have felt better for having with them this time is Syd Levine, Machine Gun instructor for the Battalion.

Coming over with the very first group of American volunteers in December, over a year ago, Syd was one of the original Lincolners. From then on he saw action—plenty action—but one of his proudest boasts is that he brought the Company he then commanded through the tough Brunete campaign without anyone being wounded. He knows how to combine the maximum of safety of our men with the maximum of danger for the fascists (There's a Maxim for you!).

Approached several times in the past about going home, he always figured that he "hadn't done enough yet".

Such guys win wars.



MOBILIZATION of the peasants. An early poster.



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For correspondence, use the following address: VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY
S. R. I. 555-E PLAZA ALTOZANO ALBACETE

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RAIDS ON CIVILIANS

When Franco sends out his aviation from Mallorca to the coastal cities of Republican Spain, or from inland bases to towns nearer the line, he makes no discrimination between military and civilian objectives. As a result, every raid adds a few more to the total of civilian deaths.

There are some millions of civilians at work in Republican Spain. Suppose that an air raid kills on an average 100 people. To knock off a single million at the rate of one raid a day would take 10,000 days, or something approaching thirty years. The cost, it is hardly necessary to add, would be prohibitive.

There is no justification of any sort for the steady slaughter of civilians. The average man or woman does not give way to terror unless he is very hard-pressed or has a bad conscience. The people of Republican Spain feel anything but hard-pressed after Teruel, and in place of a bad conscience they have an anger against the Spanish military caste and their foreign helpers which leaves little room for fear.

Under these circumstances it is as big an undertaking to break their spirit as to exterminate them. Wholesale butchery of civilians serves no military purpose at all. What is being done now has the effect only of increasing the anger and determination of the people who see it happen, and of bringing home to those of vaguer views precisely what the fascist rebellion stands for.

Line soldiers who are accustomed to treating fascist aircraft with military prudence would be surprised to see how the people in the rearguard cities react to their approach. They regard an air raid as a spectacle that should be watched. They vacate the streets, but they stand on porches and balconies, even on roof-tops, and point out the passing aircraft to each other as it goes over them. Not very wise perhaps, but it shows just how much they are afraid of it. Later, when the day's load of bombs has done its futile work and knocked another hundred off the total of rearguard population, the ambulances can be heard racing to the scene with sirens screaming. This is the only screaming that is heard in the streets. Then faces grow more serious, but not with fear. The workmanlike posters that tell us our first concern is to finish with Franco once and for all seem to speak with a fresh significance after that. The cities of the rear have seen and felt the war. Inevitably this affects the citizens more than any news sheet from the front line.

Madrid has been familiar with the fascist artillery for more than a year. Civilians working near the Telefonica, the tall building that offers the fascist their easiest target, watch the shells as they land and lay bets on which window will get it next. There is a story of a baker who had one of his entrances blocked by a bursting shell. He posted a notice on the pile of debris, saying "Business as usual at the other door".

Neither bombs nor shells can destroy the spirit of a people that is fighting for its liberty. History has taught this lesson often enough. Once again the fascist command shows itself entirely devoid of imagination. In killing our civilians, these men are hastening only the day their own end.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

QUEIPO DE LLANO has plenty of headaches but he seems to be looking for more. The other night he broadcast from Radio Sevilla that the Italians just couldn't take it at Guadalajara. Ah, there, Benito! Are you listening?... THE SON of the former Japanese Premier gave a lecture in New York on the military situation in China. It must have been a very authoritative lecture, for he's a captain—captain of Princeton University's golf team... EXCERPT from the statement of the British corporation that owns the famous Rio Tinto copper mine: "Since General Franco's forces occupied the mine area, there has been no labour unrest". They probably mean "rest"... COLONEL LA ROCQUE, leader of the French fascists, was well-known even as a youngster. Two of his fellow students at St. Cyr Academy testified at a recent trial that one of the sayings on the campus was "a liar like La Rocque"... Italian birth-rates are dropping so sharply that the fascist paper "La Stampa" asks "Are Italian women on strike?" Would you call it a lie-down strike?... KYOSUKA TOMADA the famous Japanese actor, was killed on the Shanghai front. He was a great comedian. It's a pity the Chinese soldiers were in no mood to appreciate his latest role... POST CARDS for Franco's army are printed with inscriptions in various languages. So are ours. The difference is that in theirs the Spanish message comes last... PROTESTANT ministers in Germany now hold religious meetings underground. If you can remember back that far, the first Christian churches were organized in the Roman catacombs... SOCIETY NOTE: Prince Paul of Greece is keeping company with the former German kaiser's granddaughter. Her name is—hold enow—Fredericka Louise Thyra Victoria Marguerite Sophie Olga Cecile Isabelle Christa of Brunswick. What would you call her for short?... SAYS the Nazi ambassador: "The German attitude towards the Far East crisis is one of non-interference". Don't mind the error. He means non-intervention. ANTHONY EDEN warned Mussolini some time ago to stop his anti-British radio propaganda in the Near East—or take the consequences. Since then the broadcasts have increased to the point where sixteen languages are used, including Arabic, Turkish, Greek, Egyptian, Syrian and several Indian dialects. So what do you think the British government has done? They've started their own radio station!... THE BORDER between Spanish and French Morocco

has been closed by fascist authorities who say they want to keep Spaniards in, but that is a mere coincidence, of course... BRAZIL, largest coffee-growing country in the world, has disposed of its "unprofitable surplus" by burning up 65 million bags weighing 132 pounds each, inside of seven years. And you guys are kicking about the coffee!... THE WAR is in China but a Japanese army building went up in flames right in Tokio—causes unknown. It's a funny thing, but the longer the front grows, the nearer it comes... PREMIER HERRBURN, the little Hitler of Canada, announces "An American labor racket is exploiting Canadian workers. This is foreign intervention". Is it Henry Ford? You guessed it—he's talking about the C. I. O.... INCIDENTALLY the Teruel lightning thrust took the fascists so completely by surprise that they filled sandbags with wheat. It has been taken out, baked and put in stomachs—where it belongs... TWO CUBAN students were arrested for distributing leaflets and then disappeared. A few days later a shark was caught with the positively identified forearm of one of the students inside. It is now forbidden to fish for sharks in Havana Bay... HITLER's simple little vacation cottage in the Bavarian Alps is in the middle of eight square miles of mountainside fenced around with electrified wire eight feet high, topped by five strands of barbed wire... THE GREEK government is offering a big reward for the arrest of seven criminals. They're real criminals too. Five are elected deputies of the People's Front ticket and two are trade union officials... WHEN Mussolini appointed Marshal De Bono commander-in-chief of the Armies of Africa, he asked Il Duce "Do you want Ethiopia with the Ethiopians or without them?"... WHO SAYS the British government is ignoring war danger? Why, 25 million gas masks are already prepared for use of civilians alone!... IN COSTA RICA the business slogan is "Buy Japanese"; likewise in Honduras, while in El Salvador imports from Germany lead all others. Haven't those Central American Monroe Doctrine either?... ANOTHER merchant vessel was sunk the other day in the Mediterranean. In no case has the nationality of the submarine been identified. But there is a rumor that next to the tomb of the unknown soldier in Italy they're going to build a monument to the "unknown submarine".

MICKEY

ORGANIZATION OF THE GROUND

Every attack passes through certain general phases. These phases are generally distinguished as follows, (a) the advance in column, (b) the approach march (artillery formations), (c) advancing the attack with fire and movement, (d) the actual assault, (e) continuing the attack (the passage of the enemy's line and re-organization), (f) finally the pursuit of the organization of the ground depending upon the situation and the commander's decision.

It is the final phase that is to be discussed in this article. It is the phase that is probably the most neglected and the one, therefore, that needs the most discussion. Troops that have been in a serious action get tired out and there is a point in the last phase of the attack or pursuit when the men are no longer able to continue. At this point troops in general tend to simply stop and consider the battle over. They light cigarettes and generally relax, without any understanding that they have only accomplished the first phase of their objective. A generally acknowledged phrase, much repeated and not very well understood, is that "what soldiers gain with the bayonets they hold with the spade".

It is therefore necessary for us to emphasize that in the final phase of the attack, at that point in the attack in fact when, with our objective achieved, we either have to pursue the enemy to his utter destruction or prepare for the counter attack, we must begin immediately to consider fortifications and organization of fire. Before beginning any fortifications, certain essential factors must be clearly elaborated in a plan of action. These, in fact, should already be in the commander's mind before the original attack is begun. They are as follows:

First: send out covering detachments to give himself security.

Second: to decide upon the areas of responsibility for his subordinate units.

Third: to definitely locate his several points of resistance.

Fourth: to assign definite areas to be organized into combat posts.

Fifth: to locate his command post.

Sixth: to establish liaison with neighbouring units.

Seventh: to assign sectors of fire to subordinate units.

Eighth: to arrange his machine gun support from attached machine gun units.

Ninth: to prepare his plan to repulse any counter attack.

First of a Series of Five Articles Dealing with Military Questions Written by the Commander of the Battalion of Instruction N.º 15

MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON

Tenth: to report to his higher commander that his plan for organization of the ground is complete.

It must be remembered by all commanders that the enemy's counter-attack should, if properly planned, come at the very moment we enter his line. It therefore becomes obvious that to organize a position with even temporary defenses requires the greatest initiative and prompt action on the part of subordinate commanders along with a thorough knowledge of the precepts outlined in this article. This in no way conflicts with the necessity for carrying the attack from objective to objective, storming the enemy's first, second and third lines of resistance in quick succession. It simply means that when the primary objective has been attained, subordinate commanders must understand the immediate necessity for re-organization to throw back any counter attack.

Certain features in the organization of the ground should be discussed: First of all the general tendency in modern armies is to organize the ground in greater depths than ever before, thus creating several lines of resistance when they have to be taken in succession and

increasing the power of resistance.

It is axiomatic, of course, that with the organization of the terrain goes the organization of fire and the use of the combined arms for this purpose. In certain instances, greater depth in the organization of terrain is necessary, and certain features of fortification should be understood. It is characteristic, for instance, of more or less stabilized warfare that:

A. when we are in close contact with the enemy,

B. when we may expect intensive artillery fire,

C. when we may expect a decisive attack from the enemy, our position will be organized in much greater depth and with a narrower frontage. By contrast, in cases where the characteristics of warfare are more open and (a) where we do not expect intensive artillery fire, (b) and where we are not in close contact with the enemy and (c) where no decision is sought, it is very probable that our positions may not be organized in such great depth and have a wider frontage.

The implications of organizing the ground are that one requires a breathing space in which to completely assimilate the new terrain

that is taken and prepare it as a jumping off place for the next leap forward. The dialectics of war demand the decisive defeat of an enemy force rather than the seizure of the terrain held by the enemy, to ensure victory. Nevertheless, it is impossible with modern armies to continuously fight a war of movement, and thus comes about the necessity for organizing the ground in defensive positions. In order to truly carry out such schemes a knowledge of defensive works is of the greatest importance. Certain elementary maxims can be laid down regarding defence. First, all fortifications must give the fullest use of our own weapons and restrict to the greatest possible extent the effectiveness of the enemy's. Thus our defence-works against artillery must (a) be in low relief, (b) be as strong as possible, (c) be well distributed, (d) in every case provide an alternative position, (e) be organized to protect against infiltrating and flanking fire while allowing for the maximum use of camouflage for our own machine guns, and so placing them as to permit them to deliver the most effective fire, preferably infiltrating or flanking fires; also, our positions for riflemen must be designed to give the fullest frontal and oblique fires while giving the greatest amount of individual protection against artillery, aviation, gas and snipers. In

(Continued on the next page)

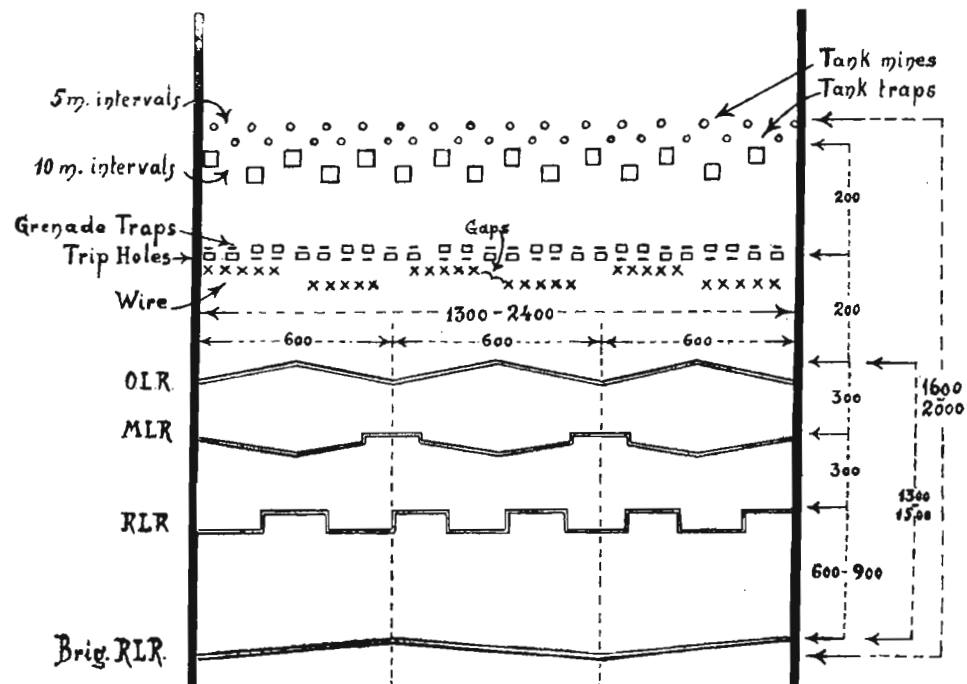


DIAGRAM of the principles involved in organizing a Battle Front

Organization of the Ground

(Continued From page 7)

addition, all positions must be so organized as to permit our free movement forward in the attack as well as complete protection in contact with our rear positions.

It is insufficient, in organizing a position, simply to organize an outpost line of resistance, main line of resistance and reserve line of resistance. It is also necessary to place obstacles before our positions to protect against both mechanical and human attacks. These include wire, grenade traps, tank traps and tank mines and also various other types of barriers which may be developed at the initiative of subordinate commanders. Some of the requirements for successful obstacles are as follows:

A. They should be constructed of material readily available.

B. They should be easily and quickly erected.

C. They must be effective barriers against all types of attack.

D. They must have a low visibility in order not to obstruct our fire.

E. They must be difficult to remove or destroy.

The diagram indicates the principles involved in organi-

zing a Battle Front. The figures indicative a wide variation. Apart from the particular necessities of the immediate situation for development in width or in depth, these variations will, of course, be much effected by the lay of the ground. Certain figures have been worked out in practice for the amount of work that may be done per man and are attached below. The standards established by these figures and diagrams however can in no case be applied to all situations. They are merely guides and indicate the possibilities that exist.

The one imperative necessity is that troops must realize the vital importance of promptly and effectively proceeding with the organizing of their immediate position when their objective has been reached. Any pause at this moment is an invitation for a successful enemy counter-attack. If such a counter-attack should be successful our forces are in a worse position than when they began the original assault. The careful infantry soldier is aware of this responsibility and learns as much about trench construction and the organization of his fire as he possibly can, thus definitely eliminating the possibility of the enemy throwing him back and re-taking the ground he has sacrificed so much effort to gain.

Kind of Soil	N.º of tools		Cubic metre per man per 8 hour day									
	Picks	Spades	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
Hard. . .	2-4	1	1-3	2	3	3-7	4-3	5	5-5	6		
Medium .	1	2	2	3-3	4-4	5-5	6-4	7-4	8-2	9		
Soft. . .	1	3-4	2-6	4-5	6	7-2	8-5	9-8	11	12		

TO CARRY ON

(Continued From page 1)

«We shall carry on as British sailors», said Captain Roberts, «and it will take more than bombs to stop us doing our duty». Then he added, with intense bitterness, «We hope that whatever nation these airmen belong to will be proud of the great exploit carried out by their gallant flying men against a defenceless ship, against men employed on their lawful occasions».

What will the Government of Britain do? Round each coffin was wrapped the flag of our country. This flag should stand for international law. It was never intended to drape the victims of Italian fascism.

B. R.

THE ONLY WAY HE CAN



Francisco: Admit it, Miaja, I score a victory every time I cut off your radio broadcast.



SELF - DESTROYERS

Load upon load of bomb and shell
Shakes down the brick and stone and dust,
But what does all this ruin spell
When only brick and stone are crushed?
Beneath you storm of steel the town
Shivers, and sinks slowly down,
And you believe that hearts lie deep.
With homes under the rubble heap!
Your loss is greater than your gain;
Men whose homes are here no longer
Spread the fever of their anger
Through the length and breadth of Spain.
A million hearts you have made stronger,
You have armed a million men.
What you destroy, shatter, burn,
Are not the things that in their turn
Will strike you and your cannons dumb,
Is not the spirit in whose name
We built an army, and defied
Your steel, your thunder and your flame:
These cannot die till we have died.
You understand so little. You
Have more than walls to batter through —
Men
Such as your brutish heroes never knew
The way to overcome

M. TOMALIN

NEW CITY COUNCIL FORMED IN TERUEL

The new Teruel City Council was officially constituted on January 17, 1938. Angel Sánchez, who is chairman of the Provincial Socialist Federation, was elected Mayor of Teruel. Previous to the rebellion Sánchez was vice-chairman of the Provincial Deputation. His wife and his daughter were shot by the fascists.

ON OUR WAY

Francisco, according to the latest dug out dope, has put his two centimos into the discussion of proposals for the withdrawal of foreign troops in Spain. He seems to have suggested that he would send 1,000 of his Italian, German and Moorish soldiers back home if 5,000 volunteers fighting on the Loyalist side were withdrawn.

He awaits our answer so we've decided to take it to him in Burgos. Just wait, Franco, old boy.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 5

Barcelona, February 12 - 1938

PREMIER NEGRIN SPEAKS TO THE CORTES SAYS REPUBLICAN VICTORY CERTAIN

MOVE WAS NECESSARY



DR. JUAN NEGRIN

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution the Cortes of the Republic met on February 1, 1938. The assembly which had been summoned and later postponed, took place in Montserrat instead of in the Catalan Parliament so as to prevent the fascist air force from taking this as an excuse to carry out another bombing raid on the civilian population of Barcelona.

NEGRIN SPEAKS

Dr. Juan Negrín, Prime Minister, made the principal speech at the opening of the Cortes. «The Government», he began, «has summoned a meeting of the Cortes in order to comply not only with a constitutional precept, but also in accordance with democratic principles in order to be in close contact with the people through parliament, and to render a full account regarding the use the Government has made of the full powers granted by the Cortes last October.»

After speaking of the change in the Ministry of Justice, he said: «Ever since this Government was constituted it had the intention of moving to Barcelona. This was deemed convenient for various reasons bearing on domestic and international policy. They are so clear that it is not necessary to create the conditions which would make it possible. It was indispensable in the first place to give to the Army of the East the regular formation, consistency, discipline and the necessary command. It was also necessary for the Government to recover the political command of the zone occupied in Aragon, which was achieved in spite of all the prophecies to the contrary, without the slightest trouble and with highly satisfactory results. In the second place we wished to have the assurance that the fronts of our Army had already such stability and firmness that our plans would be carried out without fear of any mishap and that we could effect the transfer without causing dangerous alarm in our rear. So firm was our conviction in the strength of our fronts that in spite of the unfortunate happening in the North, we insisted on carrying out our decision.»

REPRISALS

Sr. Negrín explained that the crimes committed by the fascists in bombing cities in the rear without any military objective, causing irreparable havoc, slaughtering with impunity defenceless citizens, women and children have deserved the condemnation of the whole world. «But the condemnation of the whole world,» he said, «is not sufficient to make them stop in their ferocious be-

havior, which is a clear demonstration of their impotence. Several times the Minister of National Defence has announced his readiness to renounce any warlike action against the towns of the rear on a basis of a guaranteed reciprocity. Until this is achieved — painful as it may be — the Government declares that it will be compelled to answer enemy aggressions by similar methods. It will answer with appropriate measures all the crimes of those who, not satisfied with having been traitors to their own country, handing it over to the greed of foreign imperialist powers prefer in their mad impotence to destroy our country rather than deliver up their banners to the Republic.»

NO COMPROMISE

The Prime Minister emphasised that the war is the principal pre-occupation and that it cannot be finished except by the victory and unconditional triumph of the cause of the people and the legitimate Government of Spain. He added: «Our peace will not be a peace of pacts, arrangements and compromises. We said that when the prospects of triumph were less promising. We reiterate it now when even the most sceptic among the neutral countries considers it possible and probable.»

FINANCIAL FRONT

In dealing with financial matters, he said that the attention of the Government has always been on the alert in order to obtain the greatest possible efficiency and production in view of the large expenditure incurred by the war. «A series of concrete measures has been begun which will give our banking apparatus an elasticity, a perfection, and a guarantee which it lacked when

the war began and which will make a useful instrument for economic and political work in the future. Uniform banking legislation and a unified administration are indispensable in order to carry this work out fully. And the Government believes that the time for undertaking this work has arrived.»

ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

The Prime Minister paid high tribute to the Republican Army. «The People's Army which timidly showed itself first in La Granja in an attempt to help Bilbao, and then with more success, but still with insufficient fortune, again made its appearance in Brunete, this time with the purpose of helping Santander, the People's Army. I repeat, proved its importance for the first time in Belchite and finally gave proof of its strength and capacity in Teruel.»

PRAISE U. S. S. R. AND MEXICO

Under the question of foreign affairs, Dr. Negrín stated: «Two great countries showed and have continued to show in a singular and outstanding manner their affection and friendship towards Spain: I refer to Mexico and the Soviet Union. I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to express gratitude to them, for although it has been done before. I do not wish to let this occasion escape without repeating our thanks.» Among his closing words the Prime Minister declared: «Up to a short time ago our days were full of grief. They were hopeless days, very bitter days. This era has past. And we are destined — you may be sure of that — to stand up holding the pennant of victory, a victory which we shall use generously, as the cause which we defend demands.»

FEBRUARY DAYS OF 1934 IN FRANCE

By

MAURICE LAMPE

(Base Commissar of War of the International Brigades)

France, Austria, Spain. Three very different countries. Yet the month of February will be written in letters of bronze in the history of all three, and, as a result, in the history of the progressive movement of the peoples of the whole world.

Here we shall only speak of February in France in the year 1934. Others can write for Austria and Spain.

In order to grasp the full importance of what we now refer to as 'the February days of 1934', we must bear in mind that 1933 had closed in a disturbed and tense atmosphere, dominated by the vicious propaganda of the reactionary and fascist forces who were exploiting the masses' legitimate discontent and their sense of outrage at the scandalous disclosures in the affair of that powerful and shady banker Stavisky.

REACTION PLOTS

The paradox was that those leaders of the fascist organisations were shouting 'Catch the thieves!' all the louder because it was to their advantage to save the numerous friends of theirs who were compromised in that unprecedented scandal.

They held more and more demonstrations in Paris, where the support of a police chief was already entirely theirs. They were

trying to create an atmosphere favorable to their designs. In secret councils at that time preparations were being made to overthrow the Republic and to inaugurate the vile dictatorship of fascism.

The day was fixed. February 6th. Starting from different points in Paris the fascist cohorts were to converge, according to the prearranged plan, at the Place de la Concorde, drawing in their wake a deluded multitude of small middle-class people. It was to be the day for the final assault against the Republic.

Everything was well prepared. Support had been won in the police force, the Army, etc. This was not by any means the least important card up the fascists' sleeves.

None the less there was one thing which they had not taken into account — the people of Paris.

The people of Paris... that people with its tradition of struggle for liberty — that people which is so sensitive to political developments — was able from the very first minute to detect the real intentions of those self-styled

defenders of order and economy.

The people of Paris and the glorious red suburbs achieved unity of action and, at the call of the French Communist Party, they came out on to the streets to challenge and defeat the forces of fascism, which were taken unawares by this unforeseen counter-attack.



It would take too long to tell the story of that evening of February 6th now; but one thing we should remember — if certain fascist columns did not reach their objective (such as that, for instance, which started from the Hôtel de Ville) this was due much more to the people's counter-offensive than to the action of the police, who, despite their new chief, still remained under the influence of fascist police officers, and in many cases displayed, to say the least, a lack of decision.

GOVERNMENT UNDESIRABLE

The fascists lost the day. But Daladier's Government, which had the duty of punishing the authors of these bloody events, gave up the struggle, and was followed by a Government under the leadership of the late M. Doumergue. The French people immediately regarded this Government as being in the nature of a provocation. In actual fact its composition left no room for doubt as to its intentions. It was a Government of aid for the reactionary forces and of struggle against the workers.

It was warmly applauded by every fascist in France. But the seriousness of the situation did not escape the notice of the French people in general and of the people in Paris in particular.

On that glorious day, February 9th, for five hours, over a third of the capital, the people fought an heroic battle against fascism.

Ten of our comrades fell victims to the assassins in the pay of the Two Hundred Families.

They gave their lives generously but not vainly. Their sacrifice ensured the success of the great general strike which spread over the whole country on February 12th.

It was their sacrifice also which unleashed the energy of the masses; and for months the fascists could not hold a single meeting without the workers making them understand that France was not ripe for their theories of hatred and social retrogression.

VICTORY THRU UNITY

Moreover, the February days and their heroism and sacrifice resulted in the question of unity being raised in an irresistible way, despite the obstacles and difficulties. It is to the heroes of those days that we can attribute the achievements in the France of today — a united trade union movement, unity of action, the People's Front, and — in the near future, we are convinced — the United Workers' Party.

Many of the comrades who will read these lines have lived through all those events and played a brave part in them. They should know that if fascism has not triumphed in our lovely land of France, and on the contrary has only met with defeat, then this is only due to them and to their brothers in the struggle. In addition they should know — and do know — that what the enemy has been unable to do from within the country he is trying to do from abroad.

That is why they have come to Spain to fight on the fronts of Freedom, to play their part and their knowledge and their lives, not only for the victory of the cause of the heroic people in Republican and Democratic Spain, but also so that the De la Rocques and Dorziots in France may no longer be in a position to do harm.

We are convinced that the February days — the first victory of the forces of progress and order in France — proved, together with the devotion and heroism of all, their ultimate success in final victory in Spain and throughout the whole world.



A YEAR OF BATTLE FOR DEMOCRACY

On the occasion of the Anniversary of the XVth. International Brigade, we salute the brave Spanish People for their significant victories over the triple Italian, German and Franco-Fascist alliance, with the feeling of certainty that final triumph for the Republic will be won.

Their splendid example of struggle is an inspiration to the rest of the world to hold high the Banner of Peace and Freedom from Fascist aggressions.



DAVE DORAN
Brigade Political Commissar



LIUTENANT-COLONEL COPIC
Commander the XV Brigade throughout the entire year

The second year of its battles will find the XVth International Brigade welded even more firmly to the interests of Democracy and World Peace, even more disciplined and strong in the finish fight alongside the Loyal Spanish People against the barbarous invasion of World Fascism.

**LONG LIVE THE
PEOPLE'S ARMY!**



ROBERT H. MERRIMAN
First Commander of the Lincoln Battalion in its February actions, who is now Brigade Chief of Staff



**PART OF THE FIRST
COMPANY OF THE
LINCOLN BATTALION
AT JARAMA, AMONG
THIS GROUP ARE AME-
RICAN, CANADIAN,
IRISH AND SPANISH
COMRADES**



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BARCELONA

FEBRUARY 12 — 1938

SALUD!

February 12, 1938. The XV Brigade celebrates the first anniversary of its baptism of fire. Twelve months ago today its Battalions were strung out on the hills overlooking the Jarama valley, meeting and beating the most formidable of all fascist offensives hitherto attempted on Madrid.

Hastily organised, insufficiently trained, inadequately armed, the XV Brigade nevertheless held the lines. In mid-June it was still there in the hills — four months on end, under fire — but the fascists did not pass!

Jarama is already history. So is Brunete where, after just two weeks' rest, the XV Brigade went again in action in the great July offensive of the Spanish People's Army.

Villanueva de la Cañada, Quijorna, Pardillo, Villafranca del Castillo, the Heights of Romanillos are names added to the battle-honors of the Brigade. Through a month of terrific fighting, on a narrow sector in which the fascists massed the greatest concentration of aircraft and artillery ever seen in this war, the Brigade upholds its proud traditions, and adds to its glorious record.

Again just two weeks' rest, and the XV Brigade is on the Aragón Front with the Army of the East. Quinto, Cerro de Purburell, Mediana, Belchite and Fuentes de Ebro — from north of Huesca to south of Zaragoza — the XV Brigade fights and wins half a dozen battles, in as many weeks.

Another brief rest and the Brigade is again called to battle. Thanks to the unselfish service of it and other International Brigades throughout 1937, opportunity has been given to organise new armies. So, it is all-Spanish Brigades that smash their way through the forts of Teruel. The XV Brigade is in reserve while their Spanish comrades prove that once given the opportunity to train they are second to none as first-line troops.

So, on the eve of the anniversary of its first battles, the XV Brigade is once more in action «somewhere in Spain».

In the line or out of it, the Brigade celebrates that historic anniversary.

A year of almost continuous front-line service, including four major campaigns: this is the proud record of the XV Brigade.

But, still led by Lieut-Col. Copic, its ranks leavened with the veterans of the first Jarama battles, the Brigade preserves its continuity, and maintains its record. Keeping faith with the comrades who have given their lives in this year of war, it pledges itself anew to be worthy of the democracies in which it has its origin, and to fight on until fascism is defeated and human liberty and progress be assured to the peoples of this earth.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Franco has a lot of trouble in his life. What with a bunch of bossy foreigners trying to run his war for him, and an intransigent civil population refusing to recognise him as their saviour, and a Republican Army that oughtn't to exist at all taking an unfair advantage over him at Teruel, it is no wonder he's suffering from a pain in the neck. His neck must be as sore as hell. When, on top of all the trouble a man has, his own little Chosen People turn round and kick him, that's just heartbreaking. It's no comfort to say one doesn't get kicked in the neck. Wherever one does get kicked, it hurts.

The Requetes up to now were Franco's pets. He was one of them. This is the bunch of true-blues who believe in the Divine Right of Possession. Compared with them, the Falangists are a vulgar crowd of self-made social climbers, some of whom are suspected of having derived from the race of sub-men known as the working class, who in their turn are descended from the apes. (The Requetes enjoy the aristocrats' privilege of having descended from Adam). Strictly speaking, true-blues don't shake hands with the offspring of sub-ancestors, but nowadays they have to let their principles go. It's one of war's little hardships.

The Falangists may not be perfect gentlemen, but at least they are Spaniards. When the gentry asked a few friends from Germany and Italy to their party, they expected their guests to show a decent respect for the Divine Right of Possession.

As a matter of fact they did, but owing to some mistake they thought the Divine Right was theirs. By this time so many foreigners had gatecrashed the party that it was

impossible to chuck them out. They proceeded to take over the war, lock, stock and barrel, to say nothing of limber, wing and caterpillar-whatsisname.

Light will dawn where night is thickest. One thing leads to another, and if you go putting a couple of twos together for eighteen months, you may eventually discover that they make four. It occurred to the bright boys of the class that the situation was nothing less than a foreign invasion. Some of them — hardly souls! — went further than this. They deduced that as the "Reds" had been fighting these foreigners since the beginning of the war, they very nearly qualified for the title of patriots.

So what? So a lot of loud laughter. If the Requetes carry on this way, they are going to cook everybody's goose. Reports reveal that they have already been making a bit of whoopee in certain cities behind the fascist lines.

We hear that Franco added a poignant postscript to the Christmas greetings he sent to Benito.

"Send another 100,000 men" he wrote "or I'm sunk". He may not have used those words, but he meant just that, and the figures are his very own. A new six figure gate crash is going to get up the nose of the Chosen People.

Franco has a way of sending his soldiers over the top with as many machine-guns behind them as in front of them. It might occur to the bright boys of the class that the compliment could be returned. It would be possible to demonstrate to the General a handy destination for his new 100,000 with the muzzle of a light automatic.

So here's to the trouble in their rear,



REPUBLICAN SOLDIERS — moments before being shot by the fascists for the sole crime of defending their country against foreign invaders

Como atiende la República a los refugiados de guerra

La labor del Ministerio de Trabajo y Asistencia Social

Uno de los más tristes y duros aspectos de la guerra es el referente a la asistencia y atención de los evacuados, esas víctimas de la agresión traidora que, después de perder todos sus bienes y, a veces, tras horribles tragedias en que han visto morir a sus deudos, se encuentran en el destierro, sin casa, sin hogar, sin tener a su lado seres queridos que los atiendan, que les cuiden y a quienes ellos puedan atender y cuidar. Toda la tragedia de la guerra está en esos grupos de seres errantes que van buscando un cobijo, aturridos aún por el horror de la agresión, y para quienes toda solicitud es poca.

Atendiendo a este deber, el Gobierno de la República se ha afanado siempre en procurar a los refugiados las máximas posibilidades de bienestar y de seguridad. El Ministerio de Trabajo y Asistencia Social, para resolver este problema, creó una Secretaría General de Evacuación y Refugiados de Guerra, cuyas oficinas, actúan con la máxima rapidez.

— ¿Cuántos evacuados han sido refugiados hasta la fecha? — hemos preguntado.

— Más de dos millones y medio. Todos ellos habían quedado sin recursos, en la más completa miseria. A esta oleada humana hay que añadir siempre algunos cientos y, a veces, miles más. Constantemente llegan evacuados a los lugares donde hay refugios. De éstos se han creado muchos en las diferentes capitales de las provincias del territorio leal. También se han creado Oficinas de Etapa, dependientes de la Secretaría General y que siguen las instrucciones de ésta.

— ¿Qué otros servicios existen para este objeto?

— Merecen citarse dos refugios para embarazadas, uno en Vélez Rubio y otro en Fuente-podrida. Este último, que ha alcanzado una organización perfecta, está dotado de todos los elementos de la técnica moderna. Las mujeres están en estos refugios cuatro meses, dos antes y dos después de dar a luz. Cuando tienen más hijos pequeños, pueden tenerlos a su lado en el Refugio durante todo ese

tiempo y allí son debidamente atendidos.

— Uno de los problemas de la evacuación consiste en poder dar informes a las familias de las personas refugiadas. ¿Cómo se atiende a esta necesidad?

— Se ha establecido un Fichero Central, en el cual hay ya fichas de más de un millón de refugiados. Diariamente se contestan por esta oficina centenares de cartas, en las que se informa sobre el paradero de los refugiados. También se lleva un fichero especial de personas cuyo paradero se ignora de momento. De este modo, apenas aparece, se puede informar a las familias o a las personas que se interesen.

— ¿Qué criterio sustenta el Ministerio sobre la asistencia infantil?

— Cree que debe sustituirse el régimen de asilados por el familiar. Los resultados observados hasta ahora en los niños sometidos a este régimen no pueden ser mejores. Dos mil niños hay en Bélgica colocados entre familias y todos se encuentran perfectamente. El Ministerio aspira a sustituir el régimen, más frío, de refugiados por este otro, debidamente vigilado por el Estado y que crea alrededor de los pequeños un ambiente familiar. Las familias que acojan a estos niños percibirán un subsidio correspondiente a la edad y necesidades del niño huérfano. Un sis-

Necesidad de una labor de capacitación entre los camaradas reclutas

Una de las labores más eficaces que debe llevar a cabo el Comisariado y que redundaría en beneficio de la causa antifascista es la labor de capacitación entre los compañeros reclutas.

España, país atrasado en todos los órdenes debido a los regímenes reaccionarios, más bien feudales, que hemos padecido hasta hace poco y que eran los primeros interesados en sostener esta ignorancia, el trabajo de educación social, en un vasto sentido general, es primordial, de necesidad ineludible entre las masas campesinas que se han incorporado al Ejército Popular si queremos que este Ejército sea moralmente, lo suficiente fuerte para sostener esta lucha titánica contra el conglomerado fascista de todos los países y que pasara a la Historia como una de las páginas más brillantes de la Humanidad en su lucha contra ella misma para superarse y proseguir su camino de perfección.

Hay infinidad de camaradas incorporados que tienen un sentido vago impreciso, de lo que significa nuestra guerra, es decir, del valor profundamente emancipador que representa, de la importancia grandiosa de nuestra lucha, que no es más que una guerra de clases, para el porvenir próximo y futuro de la clase obrera y de las masas campesinas de Iberia e incluso del mundo entero.

No es suficiente, con ser mucho, la meritoria labor del Comisariado para suprimir el analfabetismo de nuestro Ejército. Es necesario dar cursos de educación social, tanto sindical como política; de economía política; de Historia del Socialismo con bases sólidas, no meros discursos de tribuna. Es necesario explicar lo que es el fascismo, las razones que han motivado su aparición sangrienta en el Mundo, las fuerzas sociales que lo han alimentado y lo sostienen. Es necesario enseñar la estrategia y la táctica que debemos llevar a cabo para exterminarlo en sus mismas raíces.

Posesionado con estas armas seguras, además de las materiales, nuestro Ejército será invencible, será disciplinado, pero con una disciplina consciente que le saldrá de sí mismo. Será heroico porque tendrá el mismo espíritu que el Ejército francés de la gran Revolución que el Ejército Ruso de la guerra civil. Y le cabrá a los españoles la gloria inmortal de asestar un golpe de muerte al fascismo internacional, y como consecuencia, a la civilización de la plus-valía e iniciar una nueva etapa en la Historia de la Humanidad.

tema de inspección procurará que en nada se descuide la educación del niño y su estado de salud, ejerciéndose una verdadera tutela que asegure la eficacia del sistema. El régimen familiar se hará extensivo a los niños huérfanos y sin familia y a aque-

llos otros que han sido arrojados a las Casas Cunas o abandonados por sus padres. Este régimen nos parece más humanitario y, desde luego, se tratará de vencer todas las dificultades y obstáculos que pueda presentar su implantación.

RINCON DE LA HIGIENE

CORNER OF HYGIENE

GUERRA A LOS PIOJOS

WAR ON LICE

Uno de los mayores aliados de Franco es el piojo que puede sembrar entre nosotros enfermedades, epidemias, la muerte.

¡Desechad los piojos con la limpieza! ¡Lavaos, limpiad vuestras ropas!



One of Franco's greatest allies is the louse, which can disseminate among us diseases, epidemics, and death.

Destroy lice with cleanliness! Wash and clean your clothes!

KEEP 'EM ROLLING

The work of the Transport units of the Republican Army is apt to be taken for granted, especially by volunteers who come from highly mechanised countries. It is hardly necessary, however, to point out the vital importance of an efficiently-run transport service to campaigning troops. We all know how much transport means, especially during an attack. Few, however, are fully aware of the problems confronting this branch of the service. We speak bitterly of the embargo that prevents us from buying arms; rarely do we take into consideration that due to this policy we are being denied ways and we have. It means that certain means of carrying what supplies essential parts are rarely, if ever, to be found.

PARTS HARD TO GET

War-time conditions in Spain place a severe strain on all vehicles in use, and increase the need for an adequate supply of spare parts. Apart from the difficulty of finding the parts there is also the problem of distributing them to places where they are needed. The following is a typical case. An officer sent his car to the Brigade Auto-Park one morning during an offensive. It needed lights—nothing more; but the job was urgent. In a New York garage it would have involved 30 minutes work. When the officer arrived for his car that afternoon, it took a bit of explanation to show why the work had not been done. Imagine,—impossible to get a little thing like a bulb! There have been instances when a three-ton truck has been held up for one small bolt that costs no more than a nickel at home.

Due to rough roads, the trucks are severely punished every day. Broken springs are not rare, and since it is practically impossible

to obtain new ones, we have a blacksmith whose sole function is to manufacture and repair springs. Our tires rarely wear down to the last ply. The poor roads, especially the crudely improvised tracks at the front, cut our tires to pieces, and many have to be discarded at a premature age. Consequently the tire problem is one of great importance, and the supply must at frequent intervals be augmented—if we are fortunate enough to find the tires.

FROM BULLY BEEF CANS

It has been said that necessity is the mother of invention, and we of the XV Brigade are proud of our achievements in overcoming obstacles. Due either to thoughtless playing on the part of youngsters or to direct sabotage, many vehicles lose their tank caps. To leave the tank open means to lose precious gasoline and let in the dust that flies up from the dry roads. We have had to manufacture many gas caps from old cans of bully beef—and good caps they are. Many of us looked twice the first time we saw a truck or car with its gas tank on the fender or roof of the cab. It is a common sight now. The reason is that new fuel pumps are not available, and the only way of solving the problem is to use the force of gravity instead. Every chofer knows how valuable an empty packet of Luckies can be—sometimes even more valuable than when full. We make light fuses from the tin foil.

A piece of shrapnel from an aerial bomb that landed on one of our garages disabled a new ambulance, passing thru the engine block. Seemingly the damage was irreparable. Our chief mechanic considered an ambulance too important to be so lightly discarded,

so he went to work on it. The net result is that the ambulance is as good today as it was when it left New York. The solution was found by welding a piece from an old trench spade. I think, however, that the height of resourcefulness was shown by the chofer who used an appliance made of rubber in place of a missing accelerator spring.

British and Americans, accustomed to a mechanised environment, were recognised from the first as being useful assets to the transport services. Mechanics were put to work in the various shops, and others who had been accustomed to driving for many years back home were sent out as chofers. They came under the organisation of the Auto-Park at the International base.

ON ALL FRONTS

From this base the various units are sent to the fronts, or to the sub-bases, of which there are several. Many of the field hospital and ambulance units were formed here before they left for line service. The famous Regiment de Tren was organised from the same center. This is an unusual type of unit. It is part and parcel of the 5th Army Corps and its services are manifold. Unlike the other units it has no fixed assignment. It is composed of squadrons whose services are temporarily lent to various units needing additional trucks for a limited amount of time. The squadrons or smaller sections operate on all fronts, especially during an attack, when the need for transport is greater.

The base supplies the various Brigades with mechanics and chofers. Attention is paid to language groupings for the sake of better efficiency; but though the majority of English-speaking transport men are attached to the XV Brigade Auto-Park, others are scattered over all the mobile units in Spain.

Every driver soon found that owing to road and other conditions he had to be prepared to carry out minor repairs himself at a moment's notice. Outstandingly, his greatest grief was his carburettor. The poor grade of gas and the dusty atmosphere frequently fouled his fuel lines. This heartache was soon recog-



THE BRIGADE Sound-Truck.

nised, and it was the Americans who first organised classes of instruction to drivers in first aid to their cars. Results were immediately apparent in the marked decrease of vehicles brought in for serious repair.

The chofer had also to learn what different measures of caution to take in times of artillery or aerial bombardment: how to behave in the front lines: the principles of camouflage. He had to become accustomed to driving on dark nights with little or no lights.

With the exception of Brunete, the transport men have not had to face the same dangers as the fighting units. They live in a greater degree of comfort, travel everywhere, sleep dry and learn much. On the other hand they have no rest periods. We found that we never worked so hard as when the Brigade was at rest. The chofer is on call 24 hours of the day, and is subjected to a severe physical strain. At one time we reported 18 out of 70 men in hospital, only two of whom had been wounded.

During the attack on Belchite the Auto-Park was right there in the middle of it, looking for what there was to be found. We rolled out with several high-powered beauties. They needed quite a bit of work, but not even a well-directed shell from our Anti-Tank Battery that found its mark in the cab of a 5-ton truck was enough to discourage us. Today our fascist booty is the pride of the fleet.

The problems that meet us are manifold, but in spite of all the Auto-Park is making its contribution to an early and decisive victory. «Keep 'em rolling»—that is our motto.

HY CHESLER



EVACUATING BELCHITE CIVILIANS after the capture of the town.

DEFENCE AGAINST AVION

The problem of the defence against avion, for troops on the move, is one that has received considerable study from all the general staffs. It was brought about by ground strafing and the bombing of troops on the move during the Great War; also by the use of gas in the form of

Second of a Series of Five Articles Dealing with Military Questions, by the Commander of the Battalion of Instruction N.º 15

MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON



MACHINE GUN post to meet enemy aviation.

right and left, odd men to the right, even men to the left. Odd men immediately commence fire in the following manner: All squads No. 1 take a lead ahead of the avion to equal the length of the avion. Squads No. 2 take 2 leads ahead of the plane. Squads No. 3 take 3 leads ahead. For machine gun companies, the first section takes one lead, the second two and so forth.

Sights are not changed and the dispersion is taken into consideration, creating for a rifle company, cones of fire in each company of between 150 and 700

rounds in each cone. By test with silk envelopes towed by aeroplanes at a height of 1000 metres, as much as 25 % of hits have been registered, indicating the possibility of bringing down avion in this manner, or at least of driving avion away from troops on the move.

thod will secure for troops on the move, troops who are well disciplined in this tactic, safety and security from avion attack.

For troops in entrenchments the same principle of taking leads may be used for fire by all small arms weapons. Machine guns may be mounted upon special mounts or special dug-outs (see illustrations). This method should give a 300 degree arc of fire with an angle of elevation of at least 45 degrees.

The principle factor to be re-



Infantry anti-avion fire

spray against such troops. In order for Avion to successfully bomb troops on the move, to ground straf or to gas by spray, Avion must descend within 1000 metres of the ground surface. Therefore, certain methods of defence have been developed.

A company in column. On the approach of avion, all squads No. 1 deploy to the right in combat formation. All squads No. 3 deploy to the left in the same formation. Squads No. 2 deploy



Gun mound and trench



Range roughly within 1000 meters



Range too Great

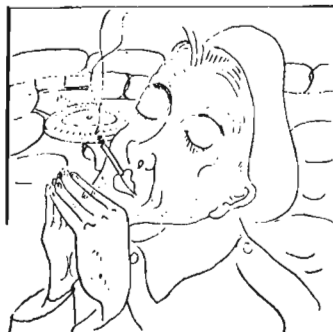
The method of discovering whether avion are within range or not is as follows:

The front sight is set upon the body of the aeroplane, and if its entire length comes within the sight, the plane is over 1000 metres away and effective shooting, except by machine gun, is impossible. If one half of the plane shows within the front sight, or less, the plane is within range. The use of this me-

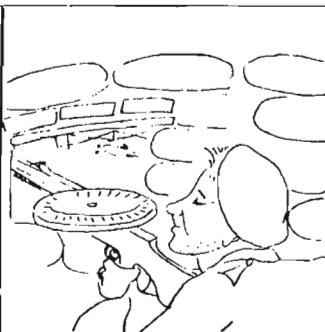
membered in dealing with aviation is that this war has proved the inefficacy of aviation to do practical damage to troops in deployed formation. However, it has had a definite moral effect upon our troops, due to our inexperience and because we have made no attempt to fight back. If we undertake to fire in a methodical, systematic and disciplined manner, in the way outlined above, we may rest assured that avion will not give us much trouble and our success in bringing down enemy air-craft will astonish, not only them, but ourselves. The principle factor involved is, where to fire, and the manner in which such fire is delivered. If we do not fire at all, it is obvious that the enemy is perfectly safe and can take advantage of our docility. But if we create for him clouds of lead into which he is inevitably bound to run, after his first or second experience, should he not be brought down, he will avoid, like poison close proximity to troops on the ground.

TROUBLE FOR MOOCHO PINTER

By Andy



To hell with cleaning out the gun!



Potting around is lots of fun.



Let 'em have it! Here they come!



JAMMED!

(Trouble for Moocho Pinter).

LETTERS FROM HOME

Franco Newsmen Feed World Press with Teruel Lies

Dear John:

You have probably heard the story of vicious reporting by the Cap press in the Teruel engagements. We were all rejoicing when word came that the Government forces took Teruel. Then we read that Franco started his counter offensive. For three days we were all on pins and needles reading accounts of how the rebel troops were pounding hell out of the Loyalists — how the International Brigades had moved up and were being shot to pieces — how the fascists finally entered the town and captured countless stores of war materials from the Loyalists. All this mind you in every capitalist sheet in the country.

Then finally Mathews of the New York Times went to Teruel and reported that the rebels had never seriously threatened the place — had never so much as gotten close to the town. We have know of vicious reporting coming through Hendaye before, but that bit on Teruel capped everything else. Generally speaking I should say that most of the news of Spain being printed here is issued by Franco's headquarters. The by-line is almost invariably Hendaye and only occasionally, as a supplementary item, Madrid or Valencia.

You guys, as well as us I guess, are a funny lot of dopes it seems. Your letters deal a lot with the U. S. A. when we here want to hear of Spain. And I suppose ours deal too much with Spain and not enough with U. S. A. happenings.

Fraternally, Leif.

**Reforcemos cada vez
más los lazos de la
solidaridad y de la
fraternidad entre to-
dos los combatientes
de varias nacionali-
dades**

Natives of South Africa Fight Against Oppression

Dear Comrade Sam:

In a sketchy way I shall try to give you a few ideas of what is happening here. The forces of reaction have come down more severely than ever on the oppressed native people. The police terror on the Reef is dreadful. People whose passes are not in order spend their free time crouching under beds in their own rooms, for fear of the police. There is much talk of the return of colonies to Germany and of the transfer of the Protectorates to the Union...

There is also the awakening of the people and the sharpening of the struggle. There have been numerous expressions of spontaneous militancy among our native people. In Vereeniging, there was a riot protesting the police raids. Needless to say, this was followed by an outburst of the worst anti-native feeling among the most reactionary and backward sections of the white population. There were even threats made by the reactionaries against the lawyers who defended the natives in court.

In Hardings and in Natal, there were organised attacks against tax-collectors. There were numerous strikes in Durban. In short the people are working up.

Greetings from South African comrades to you and to our brave Spanish comrades, and to the comrades of the International Brigades.

Fraternally yours,
G. S.

British Miner Would Like To Correspond

Brother Editor:

A friend in Mexico has sent me a copy of the «Volunteer For Liberty». This is the first copy I have seen; needless to say I found it very interesting. The copy I have is November 15, in which there is a really splendid poem by Langston Hughes. The article «Madrid Celebrates Double Anniversary» I have already read five times.

I wonder if General O'Duffy has read the article on the Irishmen in the Brigade? What a smack in the eye for him!

On Xmas Eve we had a pit-gate collection here that realised 6 pounds. Would you believe that we had to have police permission for this?

I would like to correspond with one of our boys. Can you put me in touch with one? I will send cigs and newspapers to him.

On November 26, I wrote to Frank Stout an American in the Brigades. Is it possible for you to find out and let me know why he hasn't replied?

Yours fraternally, G. W. Holloway.

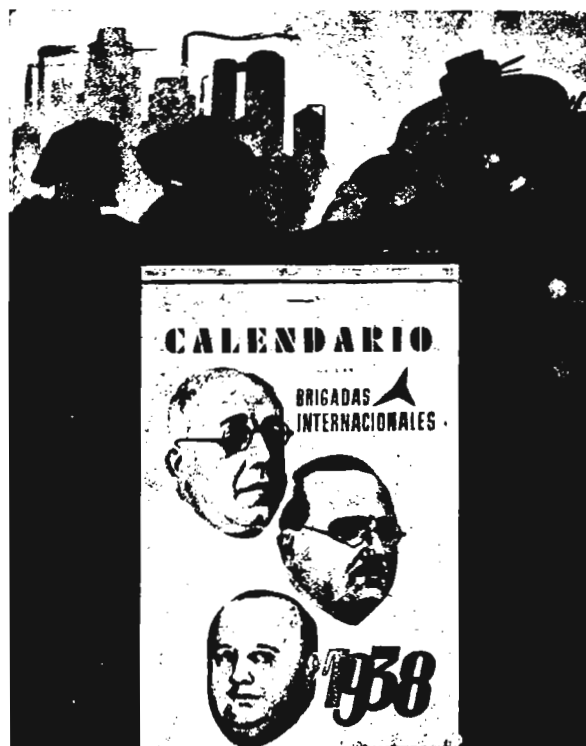
(Ed. Note: Anyone who wishes to correspond with friend Holloway, please write to the «Volunteer» and we shall send you his address.)

COMISARIOS DE GUERRA EN LAS BRIGADAS INTERNACIONALES CITADOS AL ORDEN DEL DIA POR EL COMISARIADO GENERAL DE GUERRA

En el orden del día n.º 215, el Comisario General Interino Don Crescenciano Bilbao, entre las numerosas citaciones de Comisarios que durante las operaciones de Teruel han dado ejemplos memorables y fructuosos de sacrificio en el cumplimiento del deber, cita a los Comisarios que indicamos a continuación de nuestras Brigadas Internacionales, muertos en el campo de honor:

Karl ZIMMERMANN, Comisario del Batallón,
Arthur NEUMENN, Comisario de la Artillería anti-tanque.
Sixto ASENSIO, Comisario de Compañía.
Luis ARENAS, Comisario de Compañía.
Vicente LOPEZ, Comisario de Compañía.
Arthur WEIDMANN, Comisario de Compañía.
Francisco GON, Comisario de Compañía.
Rafael ZARAGOZA, Comisario de Compañía.
Gilberto VALOR, Comisario de Compañía.
Segundo AILVAREZ, Comisario de Compañía.
Savador MIÑANA, Comisario de C
Barcelona, 12 de febrero 1938

Todo el mundo debe ver en los combatientes de las Brigadas Internacionales a los mejores hijos de España y de todos los países, fraternalmente unidos para defender la causa de la libertad y del progreso.



CALENDAR issued by the commissariat of the International Brigades.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades

Vol. II - No. 6

Barcelona, February 23 - 1938

Anglo-American Section of Anti-Fascist Club Formed in Barcelona

An English-speaking section of the International Antifascist Club of Barcelona was formed recently by a group of British and American comrades who are in the city. The idea was conceived as a result of a spontaneous gathering of a number of comrades at the Club one evening. These English-speaking comrades, heretofore not well acquainted with the Club, discovered that almost every major language group was represented in it except English.

This same group met a few days later and elected a Provisional Committee of four whose function was to contact the Secretariat of the Club, make arrangements for the incorporation of the English-speaking, and to inform other comrades not present of the next meeting. Moreover, all those at-

tendant agreed to pass the word on to their acquaintances.

Consequently, more than 30



comrades turned up at the meeting held on Sunday night, February 20. Comrade Alonso Elliott, speaking for the Provisional Committee, reported. In explaining the aims of the International Antifascist Club, he said the club existed to provide the various antifascist nationalities with a place where they can come for political or social purposes. He said the club accepted in its ranks only those who were decided antifascists and were contributing in some way toward the winning of the war for the Loyalist Government.

Elliott explained that the facilities at the disposal of the members included a library, billiard room, ping-pong room, bar, an auditorium, class rooms for study or meeting, radio, chess, checkers, and other features.

After the application blanks for membership were filled and handed in the body elected an Executive Committee of five to carry on

Number of Planes Brought Down in 1937

The Ministry of National Defence has made public the following figures giving the results of air battles during 1937:

GOVERNMENT PLANES BROUGHT DOWN BY THE REBELS

January: 3 bombers, 1 pursuit plane, 1 observation plane; total, 5.
February: 2 bombers, 3 pursuit planes; total, 5.
March: 2 bombers, 3 pursuit planes, total, 5.
April: 4 pursuit planes; total, 4.
May: 2 bombers, 6 pursuit planes; total, 8.
June: 3 bombers, 5 pursuit planes, 2 seaplanes; total, 10.
July: 7 bombers, 12 pursuit planes, 1 seaplane; total, 20.
August: 4 bombers, 6 pursuit planes; total, 20.
September: 3 bombers, 6 pursuit planes; total, 9.
October: 3 bombers, 1 pursuit plane; total, 4.
November: 3 pursuit planes; total, 3.
December: 3 bombers, 6 pursuit planes; total, 9.
Total number of Republican planes lost, 92.

REBEL PLANES BROUGHT DOWN BY THE GOVERNMENT AIR FORCE

January: 3 Junkers bombers, 13 Fiat pursuit planes, 3 Heinkel pursuit planes, 5 planes of unknown type; total, 24.
February: 4 Junkers bombers, 11 Heinkels, 6 planes of unknown type; total 21.
March: 1 Fokker bomber, 1 Junkers bomber, 14 Fiat pursuit planes, 2 Heinkels; total, 18.
April: 2 Junkers bombers, 5 Heinkels, 5 sea-planes, 8 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 20.
May: 4 Fiat pursuit planes, 2 planes of unknown type; total, 6.
June: 36 Fiat pursuit planes, 1 Junkers bombers 2 planes of unknown type; total, 39.
July: 9 Junkers bombers, 13 Heinkels, 5 observation planes, 3 planes of unknown type, 48 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 78.
August: 2 Junkers bombers, 1 twin-engined plane, 15 planes of unknown type, 12 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 30.
September: 3 Junkers bombers, 3 twin-engined planes, 3 Romeos, 15 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 24.
October: 2 Junkers bombers, 1 Savoia, 14 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 17.
November: None.
December: 4 Junkers bombers, 1 sea-plane, 1 Meisserschmidt, 10 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 16.
Total number of planes lost by the enemy, 293.



THE HOME of the International Antifascist Club, where our comrades get together for cultural and recreational activities.

the work of English-speaking section. Two of the Executive Committee will represent the Section on the Executive of the International Antifascist Club itself. The Committee members as consisted at this time, are: M. Lesser, A. Elliott, T. John, Kathleen Cresswell and Ned Golomb.

A motion was made and passed setting every Saturday night, 9 o'clock as the regular meeting time

for the English-speaking members to get together.

The Club is open to all members every day. It is located in the "Casa Degli Italiani", Pasaje Méndez Vigo, No. 8.



SHIPMATES STILL

In December, 1936, two men crossing the English Channel to France got into conversation. After some talk of what they were going to do, they commenced to talk of what they had done and had been.

First they made the discovery that both were ex-Navy men. Then, after comparing notes, they discovered that many years previously they had actually served together on the same ship, H. M. S. Resolution.



The first seaman was Fred Copeman, now Commander of the 57th (British) Battalion. The other was Sam Wild, now Commander of the Major Attlee Company of the same Battalion. (While Copeman is in the hospital, following a serious operation, Wild has become Battalion Adjutant. — Editor).

ACTION TOGETHER

When Fred and Sam arrived at the training base, the first man they met was Tom Johnson, who had

also served with them on the "Resolution" as a marine. Tom is now Officer-in-charge of the 15th Brigade Armory.

The three shipmates went into action together at Jarama and, to quote Sam Wild, "We woke up together in the same hospital at Alicante".

The story of how these three fighters, once part of the Imperialist armed forces, found their separate paths to the cause of the people, makes interesting reading.

FRED COPEMAN

In 1931, Fred Copeman, serving on H. M. S. Norfolk, played a leading part in the Invergordon mutiny. Discharged from the Navy, he quickly became active in the working class movement, and became a prominent figure in the unemployed struggles. When the police banned meetings at the Labour Exchanges, Fred led the fight against the ban and went to prison four times.

SAM WILD

Sam was prevented from taking part in the Invergordon mutiny by being put in chokey the day the mutiny commenced. Years previously his shipmates had dubbed him "Moscow Wild".

Shortly after the mutiny, Sam went the way of all flesh via the

Dockyard Gate, with all pension rights forfeited. The Navy's loss was the Labour Movement's gain, for Sam found his way there.

TOM JOHNSON

Tom Johnson served his full period in the Navy and only got interested in politics when he entered the outside world and came face to face with the problems of his class — of which he is now a proud and capable servant.



Tom often bemoans the fact that it took him so long to "wake up".

All three shipmates assert their unbounded confidence in the class consciousness of their fellow Navy men. The role that these three grand fighters are playing today in Spain is an encouraging pointer to the attitude the British Navy is likely to take should a similar crisis arise in Britain.

Marty Greets Brigade on its anniversary

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING
ORGANIZED BY THE STUDENTS OF
LAGASCA INSTITUTE TO PAY HO-
MAGE TO THE 15TH INTERNATIONAL
BRIGADE.

Esteemed Comrades:

My warmest greetings to the students and fighters meeting in this hall in their Act of Homage to the 15th International Brigade.

In spite of a great desire to be among you during these moments, I find it absolutely impossible to do so. But you can be assured of my enthusiastic adhesion in your Homage to one of our heroic International Brigades, a marvellous expression of the Anniversary of the 15th Brigade coincides with the memorable date in the history of the French peoples' fight for Bread, Peace and Liberty. The 12th of February, the French working class demonstrated that it could fight fascism through the medium of unity of action.

The Spanish people and the International Brigades will continue united in their struggle in the path designed by the fighters of the whole world.

Then, Forward to Victory!
Long Live the Spanish Popular Army!
Long Live the Republic!

ANDRE MARTY
Paris Deputy

WHAT LAUNDRY?

Have you seen the soldier who, after listening to a lecture on the importance of keeping weapons clean, sent his rifle to the laundry?

Hagamos las más gran-
des economías en ma-
terial, ropas y víveres.
Toda economía realiza-
da nos ayudará a ele-
var, a reforzar nuestro
ejército, y a vencer rá-
pida y definitivamente
al fascismo

TWENTY

(Acknowledgements to
dedicated in respectfu
comrades of Februar

PROLOGUE

Twenty of us lie here —
Twenty who crossed continents,
— oceans, mountains,
Twenty to strike at the beast
Time for burial was lacking
— space and men too.
Now, through the life of this blood-er
Earth, shall we comrades rest togethe
Comrades now in the last of all; the
The quiet cloak spread over the bed

I

Seven of us were British. From
Mighty Brittany's far-flung horde of
Imperialist booty we sought to erase
Our shame, our country's sin against
Fatal that day on the Jarama —
Fatal only to pail mortal flesh.

II

I was an actor from Boston.
Communist for six years, I tried to a
My share to mold the spirit of the m
No hypocritical « Pro Patria » adorns
Blinding lunge, a crash — and eternit

III

From New York, mighty-spired Gotha
To the rambling fields of Spain I see
Statesman, politicians corrupt, shrew-
But we came. Short was my mortal s
Than a winter's day. But eternally sh
Lie here — and eternally vigilant.

IV

History was in our hands, hard labor-
Hands, when we left — we five Irish.
We've made, bloody, fearful, glorious.
Proud of the traditions we bore, proud
We found the answer, too soon quiet-
But we smile content from the tomb

V

Six Americans are we, bloody bulks n
Given to those shared our intimacy. s
From the mighty states — six who « M
« Attack » went the word. And death s
Medieval monsters of destruction end-
Yet gave us what we never knew — a

EPILOGUE

Soon shall reach the last roll of man-
Soon the weary living tread the soft r
But flowers, new and fresh add wet, i
Death in too-familiar guise guards the
As do our comrades, with unseeing ey
And when the far-off tales are told, o
A thousand minds will flicker back to
Came the new dead. The climbing flies

OF US

Edgar Lee Masters. De-
memory of our fallen
(7, 1937.)

riched
r.
grey,
if life.

innocents.

id
as
no common last bed
l.

m
it my quiet life
I Red —
lay, shorter
all I

roughened
History

of our faith, too soon
darkness.
our vengeance, « Pasaremos ».

ow, unrecognizable,
x of us
Quick fates.
oon followed fast.
the short earthly stay —
permanent home.

nade thunder.
ad back.
loom on one huge tomb.
horizon
es.
the brave and the quick and the dead,
Jarama, from which there soon
is gone, but only the flesh.

JOSEPH ROSENSTEIN

"Soy un soldado y no un charlatán, y ya he hablado demasiado"

La popularidad del ex-general Queipo, según un periodista hitleriano

Visitada España facciosa por buen número de periodistas fascistas y nazis, no podía faltar el editor jefe del *Hamburger Freidenblatt*, doctor Sven von Müller, y su presencia en Sevilla había de significarse con la obligada visita al jefe militar faccioso de Andalucía, el ex general Gonzalo Queipo de Llano.

En el citado diario de Hamburgo aparece, el 12 de febrero, la entrevista entre el mencionado periodista hitleriano y el cabecilla rebelde.

La información va precedida de una fotografía del ex general, donde una dedicatoria expresa la admiración de Queipo de Llano por el pueblo nazi.

La crónica del periodista alemán empieza diciendo que "cuando los andaluces hablan de su general, su entusiasmo se refiere a un compatriota que tiene tres grandes méritos".

Veamos cuáles son, según este escritor hitleriano, los tres grandes méritos de Queipo:

1.º "El rasgo de bravura por el cual cogió de improviso a los sevillanos." — ¿A qué llama Von Müller rasgo de bravura?... Reconocer la popularidad de Queipo, la popularidad entre las tertulias de señoritos holgazanes, puede ser en cierto modo popularidad. El pueblo de Sevilla, los millares de seres entusiasmados por la matanza de sus parientes y seres queridos "cuando el cabecilla los cogió de improviso", no serán quienes presten calor a esa popularidad. Es bastante sarcástica esta apreciación del periodista hamburgués, porque un verdugo no puede ser nunca legítimamente popular. Si acaso, puede ser tristemente célebre; que no es lo mismo.

2.º "La rapidez de las operaciones de Málaga." — Von Müller atribuye ese triunfo al ex general faccioso, y luego, en el mismo artículo — como más adelante destacamos — habla, por boca del propio Queipo de Llano, de los doce batallones

italianos que tomaron parte en la toma de aquella ciudad.

3.º "En la cuestión del orden social... que es para él asunto de corazón." — Hemos citado, de paso, las matanzas que dirigió el general, en Sevilla, contra republicanos y obreros de tendencias izquierdistas. Insiste, el redactor-jefe del *Hamburger Freidenblatt*, en aceptar el crimen del ex general como uno de sus tres grandes méritos. Es un mérito especial y digno del aludido cabecilla. Así se comprende, con esta lógica de acepciones, que el periodista crea eminentemente popular al militar traidor.

HABÍA HABLADO DEMASIADO

"Yo pregunté al general —dice en su crónica el periodista de Hamburgo— por qué había cesado en sus discursos por la radio. Él declaró, sonriendo, que era un soldado y no un charlatán, y que había hablado ya demasiado."

Buena confesión. El propio *speker* declara que había hablado demasiado. Esto fué lo que motivó en Burgos, cansados de soportar el ridículo efecto de sus deplorables conferencias nocturnas, el cese del ex general como charlista.

"Franco me ha ofrecido una cartera en su nuevo "ministerio" y

yo no he aceptado. Prefiero seguir como general en Andalucía."

Esto es: quiere seguir siendo el "amo de Andalucía".

"Quiero dedicarme a mis quehaceres como general" —termina diciendo el "alegre" fascista sevillano.

Queipo cuenta al periodista cómo cayó Málaga, y dice que preparó fuerzas españolas y "doce batallones italianos en siete columnas para la marcha concéntrica sobre Málaga".

El periodista transcribe fielmente esta declaración, que, por sí sola, es bastante elocuente. Sabido es que sobre las divisiones italianas el ex general —ni ningún militar fascioso— tiene competencia ni autoridad alguna; por lo que se deduce, sin que necesitemos que el repórter nazi lo detalle, que no fué el "héroe general" el conquistador de Málaga, cuando él mismo cita a las fuerzas italianas que realizaron la operación.

Puede felicitarse el cronista y redactor-jefe del *Hamburger Freidenblatt*: con todo lo que relata, no habrá quien dude de que Queipo es "eminentemente" popular, aunque no lo dejen hablar más por radio y Franco no le haya dado cartera alguna en su nuevo "gobierno".

Marty saluda la Brigada en su aniversario

A LA PRESIDENCIA DEL ACTO HOMENAJE A LA 15 BRIGADA INTERNACIONAL ORGANIZADA POR LOS ESTUDIANTES DEL INSTITUTO LAGASCA.

Estimados Camaradas:

Envío a los estudiantes y combatientes reunidos en esta sala, en el Acto de Homenaje a la 15 Brigada Internacional mi más caluroso saludo.

A pesar de mi gran deseo de encontrarme entre vosotros en estos momentos, me es absolutamente imposible de hacerlo. Pero podéis estar seguros de mi entusiasta adhesión a vuestro homenaje a una de nuestras heroicas Brigadas Internacionales expresión maravillosa de la Solidaridad Internacional y de la Unidad de Acción. La conmemoración del Aniversario de la 15 Brigada coincide con la fecha memorable en la historia del Pueblo francés por el pan, la paz y la libertad. El 12 de febrero la clase obrera francesa demostró que se puede batir al fascismo por medio de la unidad de acción.

El pueblo español y las Brigadas Internacionales firmemente unidos continuarán su lucha sobre el camino trazado por los combatientes del mundo entero.

Adelante, pues, hasta la victoria!
Viva el Ejército Popular español!
Viva la República!

ANDRE MARTY
Diputado de París

En nuestras Brigadas
Internacionales debe haber
el mayor porcentaje
de clases y oficiales
salidos de las filas de los
nuevos reclutas



PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE COMMISSARIAT OF WAR OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

For correspondence, use the following address: VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY
S. R. I. 555-E PLAZA ALTOZANO ALBACETE

VOL. II — No. 6 BARCELONA FEBRUARY 23 — 1938

LEARN SPANISH

American and British comrades, learn Spanish! Many have already picked it up fairly well. All should follow their example. It is our anti-fascist duty.

The matter is important. Our relations with the Spanish people in the towns where we trained, rested or went on leave have been excellent. They have welcomed us warmly, and we

have behaved decently. That is the way it should be. With the Spanish fighters in our ranks the comradeship has been even deeper. That too is natural, for the intimacy bred in trenches and battles is as intense as it is necessary. But a better knowledge of Spanish would enable us to learn much more of what our Spanish friends have to teach us.

It would be foolish to overstress the point and argue that unless we master the language we are not doing our best to win the war. The record of an increasingly victorious year in action shows how carefully we are attending to that fundamental purpose. Nor can it be particularly relevant, in the

midst of battles, to point out the cultural value of speaking an additional tongue. But what is vital is the fact that we must learn Spanish in order to fulfil our mission here with the maximum effectiveness.

This effectiveness demands the closest and most intimate relationship possible with our Spanish fellow-fighters in our Brigade. Such intimacy in turn depends largely on a good working knowledge of the language, sufficient to meet not only the most important but also the most trivial questions and demands made upon our understanding.

In the future, when the question «Habla Vd. español?» is asked, our reply must be not a stuttering «Un poco» but a prompt and confident «Sí, camarada!»

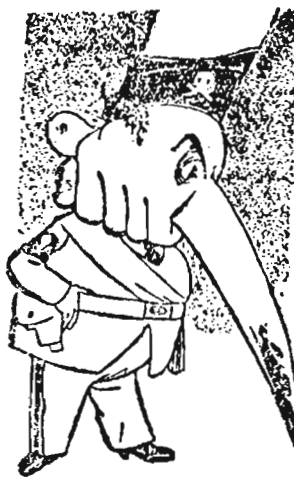


IN THE FASCIST ZONE

ON FEBRUARY 21, fourteen fascist planes were brought down by our «Chatos». Among them were 5 Meisserschmidts and 4 Fiats. After the capture of Teruel by the Republican Army, Franco sent distressing telegrams to Rome and Berlin. He pleaded for immediate and effective aid. He was promised it. Since then scores of planes have been flying over the Rhine into rebel Spain. Ships loaded from Italy with cannons, machine guns, grenades, bombs, rifles, explosives, tanks, petrol, and other war material have been slipping into the fascist ports of Cadiz. It looks like the Führer and the Duke are set on moving into Francoland



Republic. Now they're sorry they ever belived him. IT IS NOW well known that the hatred which exists between Anido and the Falangists is growing more intense every day. What a popular guy this Anido must be. FASCIST organizations have infiltrated in Vizcaya with all the vigor they can muster since the fall of the North. Children between the ages of 7 and 10 are converted into young soldiers and given the name of «Pelayos»; those between the ages of 11 and 14 are called «Flechas». Boys between the ages of 15 and 18 are made «Cadetes» and prepared for the front. The sum total of the three groups are labeled «Legionarios». Recruiting is done by notifying the child's parents of his enlistment. No reply or protest is permitted. LAST SUNDAY, Hitler spoke to the German people. His speech can be divided into two main parts. In the first part he proclaimed himself as the saviour of Germany; in the second he announced sharply that the Third Reich was headed for war. He will go to war with Italy as his brilliant second. War when the whole world wants peace.



bag and baggage. But one thing that worries Franco is the defiant way our «Glorioso» checks his guests' baggage. SHED A TEAR folks. Queipo de Llano's boss, Martinez Anido (said to be the real owner of rebel Spain) has just cracked down on Queipo by prohibiting him from speaking over Radio Seville. Queipo and Anido are great enemies. When Anido decreed that Queipo cease broadcasting, Queipo resisted. Then Franco came along and told Queipo to mind his manners and obey his «superior». The Seville General renounced his resistance but declared he would revenge himself soon. A SERIOUS INCIDENT took place between Nicolas Franco, brother of the rebel General, and Anido. The latter never could look at Nicolas without sensing a feeling of violent revolution in his stomach. This was mainly because of the influence Nicolas derived from his brother's position. To keep jealous Anido's feathers down the General was forced to sacrifice his kid brother by sending him to Portugal as the representative of the Rebel Government. BOSS

WHAT OF IT?



—There's talk of a new Franco British agreement.

—Why, dear, I thought the British had always agreed with Franco.

THE USE OF FIRE IN MOVEMENT

By MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON

Article III

In order to illustrate the purposes for which fire and movement are used in combination it is well to consider two individuals *a* and *b*. Both *a* and *b* are equally armed, equally trained and equally defended by defensive works. *B* decides to drive *a* from his position. He begins his attack. It is clear that before he attacked he was about to shoot at *a* and *a* to shoot at him. But the moment that he moves, in order to do so, he has to cease firing. It becomes obvious, therefore, that *b* alone will be unable to drive *a* from his position. A third person, *c*, must be employed to help him. Now, while *b* moves, *c* continues to fire at *a*, thus preventing him from accurately shooting at *b* while in movement. *B* moves a certain distance and proceeds to shoot at *a*, allowing *c* to advance. The two of them alternate in fire and movement.

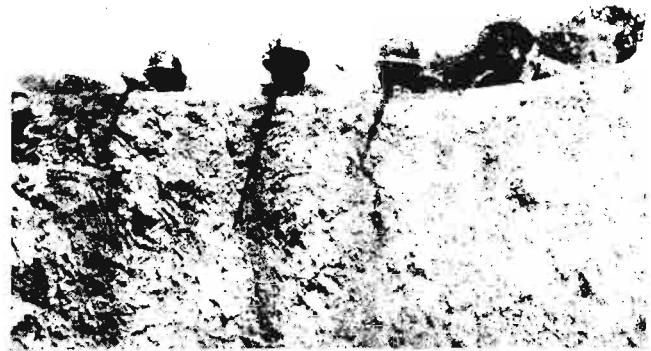
THE ATTACK

This is the principle upon which troops, as a whole, work in the attack. It is naturally obvious from this that troops in the attack necessarily attack in greater numbers than the defenders. The principle generally involved is, that while some individuals move forward other individuals continue their fire, in order to cover their advance. The principle, of course, is greatly widened out in its application, because not only must every soldier, as he advances to a new position, take up fire, but he must know, roughly, the designated target. During the instruction period this whole manoeuvre and tactic is taught under the heading of Musketry. The target in general is

designated as the "range so much", which the soldier corrects as he approaches nearer the target, and so many sight leafs in width. In other conditions the soldier proceeds to fire across a whole width of target and not only at one particular point. Each soldier doing this, during battle, sets up a screen of fire across the entire front.

FIRE SUPERIORITY

Before the attack commences it is necessary for the attacking troops to gain the superiority of fire. In other words, to be able to place so much fire upon the enemy as to prevent the enemy from firing upon troops moving in the open, with any degree of success. This superiority of fire is gained both by the use of machine gun over-head fire and also by the use of rifle while in the actual advance, cease the rifle fire, it becomes obvious that the amount of fire distributed against the enemy front is greatly lessened and large alleys are opened up, down which the enemy may fire with safety. Thus, if troops in the attack do not continue to fire as they advance, covering each other in the movement forward, they remove from themselves their greatest protection. In other words, they lose the superiority of fire and permit themselves to be picked off like rabbits while in the open. The general tendency with untrained troops is to get into the open and promptly dig a hole to hide in and play ostrich, with the unfortunate result that they receive heavy casualties, which are entirely unnecessary and which would not occur if the elements of musketry were put into practice during the advance.



ce. It is understandable that, for soldiers newly under fire, self protection is instinctively their first aim and, apparently, their only means of self protection is to dig a hole in which to hide. But in practice, although not quite so obvious, the fact is that this is about the most dangerous thing that they could do. If they continue to fire in an organized manner, as they advance, certain individuals firing to cover others digging fox holes for themselves and vice versa, the losses would be far less and advances would be made with great security.

NIGHT ATTACK

Certain other features in the advance of soldiers are important. In the day time, soldiers in the open in the attack, naturally move from cover to cover as individuals. How should they move? If they are in deflated position it is possible to move standing upright or in short dashes. If they are in low positions, upon which the enemy may fire from higher points, it is better that they should also move in short dashes. But, if they are in flat country, where the sweep of fire from the enemy covers great distances, it is

more advisable that they crawl. Although this may be a slower method of advance the crawling individual target is much harder to hit and is very hard, even, to see. At night, or in smoke clouds where it is necessary to remain in close contact, man with man, the only method of advance is in the erect position, moving forward slowly and quietly, until within the correct distance, when the assault is made suddenly.

GOOD MUSKETRY VITAL

For commanders the instruction of individuals and smaller units in musketry is of the most vital importance, for once troops are deployed in action there is little the unit commander can do to affect the tide of battle, since it is impossible for him to change his front once deployed, except by using his reserves. It is well for soldiers and commanders to bear this in mind and, therefore, by applying the principles of musketry to carry forward their advances with the best technique available, that of Musketry, and thereby achieve their objective with fewer casualties and more certainty of success.

TROUBLE FOR MOOCHO PINTER

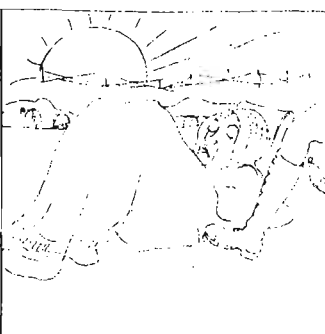
By Andy



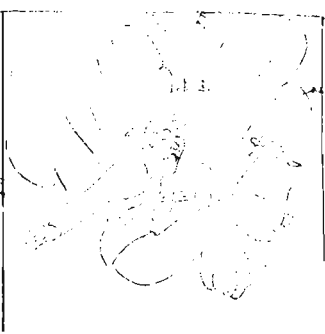
Dig at this here time of night?



I've got to sleep or I can't fight.



Leave me alone, I'll be all right.



WELL...

... trouble for Moocho Pinter).

THE MILITARY SITUATION TODAY

BARCELONA, Feb. 22.—Following a heroic resistance lasting over four days the Republican Command last night ordered their forces to evacuate Teruel in face of the pinchers movement with which the fascist forces threatened to encircle them. In view of this the Commander of the 46th Division, which had been entrusted with the defence of Teruel itself and which for over 48 hours had held up the enemy forces attacking the city from three sides, mustered his forces together and succeeded in forcing an exit toge-

ther with all his men and material, which lies to the south of the main road to Valencia and at the same time began to press from their positions to the west of Teruel. Here the Republicans retreated across the River Turia and eventually, as the circle around it grew tighter, decided to abandon the city itself.

The fascist advance was possible only as a result of the tremendous reinforcements of planes and artillery which Hitler and Mussolini have supplied to Franco in recent weeks. It is essen-

tially by tremendously increasing the supply of planes and artillery. And the result of this increase is the recapture by the fascist of Teruel.

This concentrated attack against Teruel has been purposely delivered at a crucial moment in international politics in order to give Italy a stronger bargaining weapon with the British Government.

From a strictly military point of view the recapture of Teruel is not as spectacular as it may at first appear to the casual observer. This is the fourth counter-offensive the rebels have been forced to undertake in order to repair the moral damage caused them by the loss of Teruel. Or to put it more concretely, what the Republicans captured in six days with the loss of only 200 killed the rebels have taken two months to recapture, and in doing so have lost tens of thousands of men.

But, despite this temporary reverse, the Republicans have still gained their main objective. They forced the rebel command to give up the idea of attacking at Guadalajara or on some other front and have obliged them to employ all their first-class men and material merely to recapture what at the best of times was only a small provincial capital of 12,000 inhabitants and today following repeated fascist bombardments is little more than a heap of ruins.

Taking all in all, the Republicans have lost little and have made some very important gains. They have succeeded in gaining two months of valuable time which, translated into the offensive strength added to the Spanish People's Army, may well be one of the decisive factors of the war as a whole.



ther with all his men and material.

The present offensive, which is the fourth large-scale operation the rebel command has undertaken since the capture of Teruel by the Republican forces on December 22nd, began on Thursday when the fascist forces, supported by an enormous number of planes and a large amount of heavy artillery, forced their passage to the left bank of the River Alfranca five or six miles to the northeast of Teruel. The following day they continued the advance and occupied the village of Valdecabro, thus outflanking Teruel on the East. The next move was to storm the Mansueto, a hill lying between Valdecabro and Teruel, which holds a commanding position. From here the

tial to point out that at a time when Italy talks of withdrawing «volunteers» from Spain, she is not withdrawing, but is actually increasing technical aid in the form of heavy artillery and aeroplanes. The offer to withdraw «volunteers» combatants should deceive nobody. For Mussolini realises that the present Republican soldiers are far superior to Italian «volunteers» conscripted to fight for an alien cause in a foreign country. The only way in which he can avoid defeat in Spain is



Todo nuevo recluta debe ver en cada antiguo combatiente internacional a su mejor amigo y el más experimentado camarada de lucha.



"All German", Says Pilot in Interview

The well-known Committee of Non-Intervention has revived after a long recess and is once more engaged in whatever its activities might be called. With headquarters in London, however, it is quite possible that during its hibernation the committee ran across the following interview that the Vienna correspondent of the London "Daily Express" had with one of the twenty-six German aviators who deserted from the famous "Richthofen Squadron". It should be borne in mind that the "Daily Express" has always been a firm supporter of the policy called non-intervention.

The interview contains the following statement by the German flier: "I was a member of Section 334 of the squadron. At the beginning of last August we received an order to present ourselves as «volunteers» for service in Spain. We sailed from Kiel in a German merchant vessel with 46 planes and about 200 aviators and mechanics on board. In Spain we were taken to an airfield near Salamanca. We stayed there two months, during which we took part in fourteen aerial combats, losing six planes and twelve pilots.

"The personnel at this field was exclusively German. There was not one Spanish flier. On October 26 we returned to Germany by vessel again to Kiel. This leave was based on the understanding that we would return to Spain on December 1. Needless to say, we never did."

Por todas partes debe existir el espíritu entusiasta de fraternidad que es la base y la fuerza de nuestras Brigadas Internacionales.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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Barcelona, February 28 - 1938

NEGRIN CALLS FOR "THE WILL TO CONQUER" IN RADIO BROADCAST TO THE NATION

The evacuation of Teruel does not in any way diminish the certainty of a victory for Republican Spain over fascism. This was the keynote of a radio speech broadcast to the people of Spain by Prime Minister Juan Negrin on Saturday night, February 26.

In his opening remarks Dr. Negrin said that the great superiority of material, which is only transitory, of the opponent's army has forced the soldiers of the Republic to abandon Teruel. «The news», he said, «of the evacuation of that city was not withheld a single instant from the public.»

He announced that «It has always been the pride of the Government of the Republic that it keeps the country informed of the exact course of our war. No episode whether dramatic or daring, has, ever been hidden from the nation or distorted.»

Speaking of Teruel, Dr. Negrin said: «At Teruel the Republic destroyed the enemy's plans. For two months the most violent battles since the beginning of the war were taking place on this front. The Levante front has, therefore, attained extraordinary importance both nationally and internationally. And the changes which took place there show a favorable balance for the Republic.»

«The Italo-German command has been preparing an offensive since the middle of November, which was boastfully announced with the greatest publicity. It was announced by the press, the fascist radio, and the newspapers of

«The will to conquer should ring like a song of certainty and strength at the lathes, at the wheels in the factories, in the work of the peasants, in offices and workshops. And with a model rearguard working at the highest tension in the service of our arms, we shall be able to say to our heroic fighters:

«Officers, Commissars and Soldiers of the People's Army! All the Spaniards are endeavoring to excel themselves. Excel yourselves, do not yield an inch of ground to the foreign invaders. With rigid discipline, with conscientious training, with invincible heroism, make of our Army the victorious Army of an independent, free and happy Spain.»

the countries which are invading Spain. This offensive was used by the diplomats of those countries in order to further their intrigues in the chanceries. Merely the propaganda about this offensive, which it was declared would be a decisive one, was in itself a weapon which the enemy was using against us. For the leaders of the fascists it was also a support by which they tried to bolster up the rotten morale of their rear. By promising a lightning victory they tried to animate those of their partisans who displayed fatigue and doubt. They wished above all else to disarm and discourage those Spaniards in fascist territory who desire our victory and who are becoming more numerous each day.

«Under those circumstances, the Government of the Republic decided to put into practice an elementary rule of strategy: to upset the enemy's plans by striking first. The Government decided to impose its will on the enemy and to oblige them to fight where it suited us. In the middle of December we began the Teruel offensive. In one week we captured the fortified city. Our Army took thousands of prisoners. Our splendid Air Force brought down many German and Italian planes...

«Our success was a terrible blow for the enemy. The military prestige of Italy and Germany crashed as it had before at Jarama, Guadalajara, Brunete, and Belchite. In this way the diplomatic maneu-

vers of these countries were hindered. Behind the fascist lines there was commotion; some were in panic, the rest rejoicing. As a result of the strength shown by the Republican Army, the enemy was forced to renounce its plans. In order to recapture Teruel they threw their best, shock troops against our line. These troops had been held in preparation for their offensive. During two months, in view of the courage of our soldiers, entire divisions of the rebel army collapsed. The recapture of the city which from the beginning of January the rebel leaders considered certain, appeared to be hindered by insuperable difficulties. The traitors had to ask for additional aid from their bosses abroad. Many ships laden with planes and guns arrived in fascist territory from the harbors of Germany and Italy. With these considerable reinforcements in material, for which they were paid with pieces of the land of our fatherland, the enemy was able, after two months of desperate attempts, to recapture territory which has proved a cemetery for its chosen troops.»

Negrin continued: «Now is not the time to have more than one thought and one desire: to crush the enemy. By fighting at the front, working more in the rear, by pursuing and uncovering them when they hide among us.»

In his closing remarks he stated: «These are moments of sacrifice,

but also of confidence in victory. Moments which demand that we should increase still further the common desire which unites all of us Spaniards against the enemies of the people.»

«A few days ago an international adventurer cynically proclaimed from Germany his aim to regulate at his caprice the destinies. This he will never achieve. The Spanish people have never, never allowed themselves to be ruled by the will of foreigners. They fought in the past and are fighting today for the right to decide their own destiny for themselves.»

«The last foreign cannon-shots in Teruel have not been able to extinguish the echo of our first victory, which will flourish again with the help of all in new and decisive victories.»

«The will to conquer should ring like a song of certainty and strength at the lathes, at the wheels in the factories, in the work of the peasants, in offices and workshops. And with a model rear working at the highest tension in the service of our arms, we shall be able to say to our heroic fighters:

«Officers, Commissars, and Soldiers of the People's Army! All the Spaniards are endeavoring to excel themselves. Excel yourselves, do not yield an inch of ground to the foreigners. With rigid discipline, with conscientious training, with invincible heroism, make of our Army the victorious Army of an independent, free, and happy SPAIN.»

..... el día en que el Ejército Popular se posesionó de Teruel, rindieron los últimos focos de su resistencia interior, creíamos en la victoria de la causa republicana con la misma convicción, con la misma fe que creemos en ella ahora que Teruel, por obra exclusiva de la artillería y la aviación italo-germánica, no es de la República, no es de España. Nuestra voluntad de victoria y nuestra segura confianza en el triunfo no han sufrido disminución. Las conservamos intactas y las vivificamos con nuestros entusiasmos y trabajos.

DR. JUAN NEGRIN

..... Tendréis, soldados del pueblo, todo el armamento que necesitéis para alcanzar con vuestro valor y vuestra pericia victorias decisivas en la lucha por la libertad de España. Para ello, se afanará nuestra retaguardia, trabajandomás y mejor, estimulados todos por el sublime anhelo de aportar esfuerzos, desvelos y sacrificios al más rápido triunfo en esta lucha que enorgullece a cuantos en ella participan.

DR. JUAN NEGRIN

DON MANUEL AZAÑA

A Brief Biography of Our President

Manuel Azaña Díaz was born in Alcalá de Henares on the first of January 1887. He had his first schooling there. He studied law in the college of María Cristina in El Escorial, and at 20 obtained a degree. He went to Madrid with the idea of becoming a lawyer. There he attended the lectures of Don Francisco Giner de los Ríos and began his social life in the Athenaeum for Literature, Art, and Science, where he was to distinguish himself years later.

As doctor of Law he was a successful candidate for a vacant place in the Direction General of Registers. Obtaining a grant from the Council for the Development of Studies, he left Spain and spent the year 1911 in Paris. From there he sent his first articles to the Madrid newspaper *«La Correspondencia de España»*, signed with the pseudonym Martín Piñol.

Reputation as speaker

In a series of speeches in defence of the memory of Don Segismundo Moret he showed himself an excellent speaker and was elected first secretary, in 1913, to the Athenaeum of Madrid.

During the European War, 1914-1918, he carried out in the Athenaeum a policy of frank adhesion to the allied cause, organising memorable meetings such as the one held in the Bull Ring at Madrid. Together with other Spanish intellectuals he visited the French, English, and Italian war fronts, from which he sent articles to *«El Liberal»* of Madrid.

He spent the year 1919-1920 in Paris. On his return to Spain he founded, with Don Cipriano de Rivas Cherif, the literary review, *«La Pluma»*, a monthly publication which continued to appear for two years. Then Azaña became editor of the weekly *«España»* which was suspended in 1925 by the dictatorship of General Primo de Rivera.

His political career began in 1913 when he joined the Reformist Party, whose head, Don Melquíades Álvarez, attempted an impossible liberal collaboration with the monarchy. Opposed to the passive attitude of this party, Azaña, with a group of friends, founded the *«Republican Action»*.



Between 1920 and 1931 he wrote and published *«The Garden of the Friars»*, an autobiographical novel about his childish meditations in El Escorial; *«The Life of Don Juan Valera»*, which was awarded the First Prize of National Literature and *«La Corona»* (The Crown), a dramatic work. He translated Borrow's Bible in Spain, Merimee's *«His Holiness Coach»* and Chesterton's *«The Orb and the Cross»*.

Minister of war

He took part in the Pact of San Sebastián where the representatives of the Republican Action, the Radical Party, Catalan Esquerra, Galician Left and Socialist Party, met together; and he revealed himself to the masses as a great speaker in the meeting of 1930 in the Bull Ring in Madrid.

On the occasion of the uprising of Jaca, the members of this committee were pursued by the police, and some were imprisoned. But Manuel Azaña escaped.

When the Republic was established by a majority vote, Alcalá Zamora became President and Azaña received the portfolio of War.

The Minister of War is usually a military man. Azaña made important reforms in the army. He had published years earlier the first volume of a work on *«Studies in French Contemporary Politics. I. Military Policy»*.

Reforms

When Alcalá-Zamora resigned, Don Manuel Azaña was elected

Prime Minister and held his post, as well as that of War Minister, up to 1933.

During his term of office he had to suppress various extremist movements of which the most dangerous was the military monarchist insurrection of August 1932, led by General Sanjurjo, who was arrested and sentenced to death. The sentence, however, was not carried out.

After the Constitution was approved, the chief of state elected, and the Law of Agrarian Reform passed, as well as the Statute of Catalonia and the Divorce Law, there were still lacking a series of complementary laws which had to be approved by the Cortes. The President differed with the Cortes in the matter of these laws. Although Parliament voted confidence in his government, Azaña had no confidence in the Cortes, and therefore dissolved it, thus granting power to Llerenas.

Azaña was elected deputy for Bilbao in the new elections, and took his place in the opposition. He saw that the Republic was being betrayed by its worst enemies. He took no part in the October uprising, which was provoked by the C. E. D. A. (a reactionary party) which was taking part in the government although it did not respect the regime. Nevertheless, he was arrested and interned on a warship in the port of Barcelona.

His innocence established at law, he returned to political life. In the fields of Castellón (Valencia), Lascares (Bilbao) and Comillas (Madrid) crowds of hundreds of thousands of people collected to hear him. This was at the beginning of the vigorous reaction of the Spanish left parties. On the triumph of the Popular Front, in February 1936, Manuel Azaña became Prime Minister.

Zamora was removed from the presidency, and Don Diego Martínez Barrio occupied the post provisionally. Later Azaña was elected president.

Don Santiago Casares Quiroga became Prime Minister.

On the 17th of July, 1936 the military uprising took place. Azaña has remained President and representative of the Spanish people.

La pérdida de Teruel no debe influir en el ánimo de los combatientes

«LOS SACRIFICIOS DE HOY, FRUCTIFICARÁN EN LA VICTORIA DE MAÑANA

Todo el mundo en su puesto — dice el general jefe del Estado Mayor Central, — cumpliendo su deber de español, y no se harán esperar los días de triunfo

El Ministerio de Defensa Nacional ha facilitado la siguiente nota:

«El día 22, después de la evacuación de Teruel, el general jefe del Estado Mayor Central dirigió a las fuerzas del Ejército de Levante la siguiente orden general: «La situación táctica creada alrededor de la plaza de Teruel, con la caída del Mansueto y Santa Bárbara, producida el pasado día 19 después de un brutal ataque de aviación y artillería enemigas, de más de diez horas, se resolvió en la jornada de ayer desfavorablemente para nuestras armas. Las tropas que la defendían, después de agotar sus posibilidades de resistencia, atacadas por tres frentes y envueltas desde las catorce de ayer, lograron, ya de noche, conducidas por su jefe, abrirse paso a viva fuerza a través de las líneas enemigas y replegarse a nuestras posiciones del sur de la plaza.

La caída de Teruel, conquistado con tanta pericia y abnegación por nuestro Ejército, no debe influir depresivamente en el ánimo de los combatientes, sino, por el contrario, exaltar su fortaleza moral. La guerra es sacrificio, y es preciso saber afrontar éste en los momentos que la guerra lo exige, seguros de que los sacrificios de hoy fructificarán mañana en la victoria de la causa popular que defendemos.

Si la conquista de Teruel fué un airo de gloria para el Ejército Popular, su pérdida no puede tener más importancia que el dolor de pasar a manos de nuestros invasores un trozo más de nuestro suelo.

El mando del Ejército Popular, comprometido a la conducta que siguen los rebeldes, no tiene por qué ocultar los reveses. Los espíritus fuertes y los ánimos bien templados se sorjan en la adversidad. Por eso el mando espera que todos los jefes, subordinados y las tropas saldrán de la dura experiencia de las cuatro últimas jornadas con la decisión inquebrantable de afrontar las nuevas situaciones por difíciles que sean. La de hoy no es grave, ni siquiera difícil. Que todo el mundo se mantenga en su puesto, simplemente, cumpliendo su deber de español y no se harán esperar los días de triunfo.

De orden del ministro de Defensa Nacional. — El general jefe del Estado Mayor Central, *Vicente Rojo*.

De la conjunción de los tres esfuerzos — Ejército, retaguardia y Gobierno — surgirá la victoria republicana de que España espera su renacer.

DR. JUAN NEGRÍN

LA EVACUACION DE TERUEL Y LA NOTA OFICIOSA DEL GOBIERNO

Tardaron dos meses en recuperar lo que habían perdido en seis días. Y su penosa victoria del 22 de febrero no puede ser, honradamente, militarmente, técnicamente, apuntada en su haber. Se la deben de un modo íntegro y total, de un modo que no deja lugar a dudas, al Comité de No Intervención en sentido único, de Londres. ¡Sea para sus miembros la gloria! Y su presidente, el inefable y casi inverosímil Lord Plymouth, pescador de caña en los *week-ends*, reciba de los españoles, de los españoles que merecen todavía llamarse así, un emocionado y hondísimo recuerdo. Tenga la seguridad de que no le olvidaremos nunca.

Acordémonos... Era en diciembre. En torno a Sigüenza, se aglomeraban las artillerías facciosas: baterías de todos los calibres, pero predominando los mdeianos y los grandes; carros de asalto en número crecidísimo; centenares de ametralladoras; repuestos fantásticos de municiones; víveres, ambulancias: todo lo que hay que esperar en una ofensiva a fondo, de la que se espera resultados de mucho alcance estratégico. El que escribe estos humildes comentarios intrascendentes, presencié, cuando la Guerra Europea, en el frente aliado occidental de Francia, Bélgica y Alsacia, espectáculo semejante, y debe decir que, a despecho de la importancia que entonces ya se daba a la mecánica y a la química, sobre lo que llamaban los alemanes, cínicamente, con su racial y nacional desprecio del individuo, "material humano", todavía los generalísimos y sus estados mayores atendían más a la calidad de las fuerzas, que al instrumental destructivo que había de confiárseles. No es que creyeran, con el ruso Souwaroff, que "la bala es loca y cuerda la bayoneta": es que su mentalidad occidentalista, liberal y democrático, a despecho de la deformación profesional, les obligaba a considerar primordiales los valores del espíritu. Un soldado, para ellos, a pesar de todo, seguía siendo un hombre.

Un hombre sigue siendo también para nosotros; pero al otro lado de la frontera provisional que separa a las dos Españas, un soldado es una pieza de la máquina militar y nada vale por sí mismo. De ahí que predominen, en los elementos de choque, los mercenarios de diversas razas, lenguas y colores, sobre el quinto sacado de los cuarteles

hispanos y sobre el reservista arrancado de su hogar por la violencia. El condotiero no tiene, en la pelea, más que estímulos de orden subalterno, de satisfacción fácil. Franco ofrecía a los kabileños del Rif y de Yebala botín pingüe y mujeres hermosas. Sabía que así halagaba su primitivismo elemental y básico. ¿Qué ese botín y esas mujeres tenían que ser *raziado* el uno y manci lladas las otras, en la tierra de España? Es verdad; pero un general a la española, cuando se decide a sublevarse contra el régimen que se dieran libremente sus compatriotas, prescinde de todos los escrúpulos.

Pero decía que, allá a mediados de diciembre, los facciosos acumulaban al norte de la Alcarria divisiones y material para el gran ataque, operación de largo aliento, que pensaban dar a nuestras líneas. ¿Acaso habían imaginado también conjugar ese ataque, muy duro desde luego, con otro por el puente de Arganda? Madrid ya no se puede tomar de frente; pero sus comunicaciones pasan por una zona no muy ancha: cortándolas, se le pone en un trance difícil.

Parece que el comienzo de la gran embestida alcarreña estaba fijada para el 16. El 15 atacamos nosotros. Atacamos entre borrascas de nieve, con un frío siberiano; atacamos, poniendo en el ataque, a la vez, inteligencia y bravura. En seis días,

rompimos y tomamos, salvo algunos reductos interiores, un vastísimo campo atrincherado y una ciudad.

El mando enemigo vaciló al pronto. Se le hacía muy duro renunciar a sus planes y dejarse maniobrar. Y de ahí que enviara, un poco a la diablo, sus primeros auxilios. Pero, al fin, tuvo que aceptar la amarga realidad de su descálculo. Iba a acometer: le acometieron: iba a sorprender: le sorprendieron: iba a derrotar: le derrotaban...

Se le abrían dos caminos: o acusaba el golpe, se resignaba como en Belchite, organizaba un flanco defensivo en el oeste y el sud de Teruel y continuaba desarrollando sus actividades agresivas en la Alcarria, o renunciaba a sus planes primitivos y volaba, con todos los elementos acumulados en Sigüenza y su región, al socorro de Teruel.

Eligió el segundo. Equivocadamente, a mi modesto juicio, y también en contra de la opinión autorizada de un crítico militar tan escuchado como el coronel alemán Von Paenecke, profesor de la Escuela de Guerra de Berlín. Todavía podrá admitirse que Franco, mientras resistían los sitiados de Teruel, se negara a abandonarles. Había una razón de carácter sentimental. Lo absurdo es que rendidos Rey y Barba, aun continuara la batalla del Bajo Aragón.

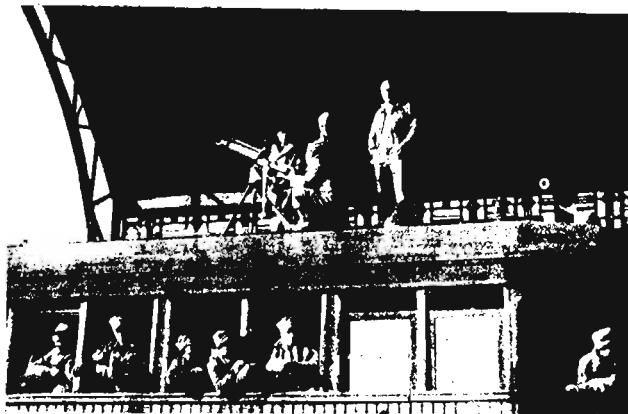
¿La lección que se desprende de los hechos? Esta: que en las guerras modernas, David, para vencer a Goliath, ha de usar un armamento análogo en eficiencia al suyo. La honda vibradora, la piedra en la frente, la caída del gigante, hacen un gran efecto, cuando se lee tal escena en la Biblia; pero los tiempos son de realidades.

Las democracias tienen miedo, mucho miedo: no acaban de comprender que nos estamos batiendo por ellas; pero nosotros, tan débiles, tan pequeños, tan abandonados, podemos, si queremos, anular, parcialmente siquiera, la superioridad técnica enemiga. Con energía, serenidad y espíritu de sacrificio, aprovechando todas las colaboraciones que se nos ofrezcan (y es de creer que se nos ofrecerán), logremos que nuestra aviación, y nuestra artillería, y nuestro municionamiento respondan, en plazo muy breve, a lo que exigen las circunstancias.

Pero ello ha de ser hecho rápidamente, porque los rebeldes tienen prisa y sus protectores lo mismo: pongamos nuestra confianza en el Gobierno, desde luego; pero ayudémosle todos: nos va —que no lo dude nadie— más que la vida...

FABIAN VIDAL.

ON THE MOVE



MACHINE GUN MOUNTED on the roof of a troop train carrying the men of the Fifteenth Brigade to the front. In more than a year of successive actions, the Fifteenth Brigade has seen active service on many fronts -- at Jarama, Brunete, Aragón and Teruel. And it hasn't always had troop trains for transportation, a fact to which many of our bunioned comrades will testify.

CUBAN VOLUNTEERS IN SPAIN

In January 1937, there arrived at the training base of the Lincoln Battalion a new contingent of American volunteers, composed in a large part of youthful antifascist Cubans. At the head, as military leader came the energetic Cuban student leader Rodolfo de Armas. Rodolfo was the leading spirit in the organization of the «Centurie Guiteras» Column which has since played such an honorable role on the Spanish antifascist front. This Column consisted of young men who belonged to the «Julio Mella» Cuban Club of New York City.

When the Lincolns moved into action on the Jarama front in February, a year ago, as part of the newly established 15th International Brigade, the significant Cuban Column formed the third Section of the First Company.

INTEREST NATURAL

When the military rebellion broke out in Spain, it was only natural for the Cuban people to take decided interest in Republican victory. Cuba was a Spanish colony up to the year 1898 when the Cuban people struck out for freedom. They won it; at least in name. But the rising domination of American economic interests kept a heavy hand on the political development of this small, autonomous state, and still prevents the people from running their country in their own way.

Cuban history since the revolution has been a succession of violent changes. Action is followed by reaction. Peaceful periods have



A GROUP OF CUBAN and Spanish comrades in the Fifteenth International Brigade. The original Lincoln Battalion contained a complete Cuban section when it was formed more than a year ago.

been short, but the lessons of revolution have been well learned.

The total population of Cuba does not exceed four and a half millions. The majority comes from Spanish stock; a minority are Negroes. All alike speak Spanish. Men and women whose fathers and grandfathers fought for national independence were brought up to hate their Spanish dominators. Now from the other side of the world they see in the old country a struggle taking place that is analogous to their own.

The masses who have no sympathy with the dominating class do not miss its significance.

BRAVE LEADER

On February 23rd last, when the Lincolns initiated their first attack against the fascists at Jarama, the Cubans suffered the most serious losses. Rodolfo de Armas was one of the first to get killed. After rescuing a comrade, he charged again and clenched his fist high in the air and beckoned others to follow. At that moment a bullet struck him in the leg and as he stooped forward to grip his leg with his hands, two more bullets hit him, one in the head and the other in the jaw.

A young medical student at the time that Machado effected his dictatorship over the Cuban people, Rodolfo was a ceaseless fighter against the fascist regime. Later a price of 50,000 dollars was put on his head by Fulgencio Batista, present dictator of Cuba.

Among these killed at Jarama with Rodolfo were: Rufo, Guijarro, Pedro Hernández, Pérez and García Maldonado. Many other members of the Cuban group were more or less seriously wounded.

The Cuban group within the 15th Brigade was not reformed until the days of the Aragon offensive, when it went into the thick of the fighting at Fuentes de Ebro and was again cut to pieces. The Company Commander

and Political Commissar, both Cubans, were killed. Romero Meruelo and Florentino Ortiz were men of ability, whose loss is more than Cuba's.

LISTER LONG IN CUBA

It is proper to mention here that the Cubans have not only served in the 15th Brigade, but hundreds have fought and are fighting in other branches of the People's Army. There were a number of Cubans fighting in the North before it fell. The 11th and 12th International Brigades can claim more than three score of them. There are many Cubans scattered throughout the transport services, tank corps, artillery units, and in the aviation. Cubans are also in the Republican Navy. It appears that in the Cuban Services reactionary political opinion is by no means as stable as in the forces of the imperialist countries. After all, it is not long since the Army and Navy were fighting on the side of revolution. For this reason many men have come over from both branches and brought useful experience and training into Spain. Lt.-Col. Enrique Lister, himself, spent many years and learned much on the Cuban Island.

Of all the units of the Peoples Army, the Campesino Division can perhaps claim the largest number of Cubans. Jaime Bofill is Adjutant Political Commissar of the 46th Division del Campesino. And Policarpo Candón, before his death in action at Teruel several weeks ago, was the trus-



POLICARPO CANDON, Cuban leader and Commander of the First Mobile Shock Brigade of the 46th Division del Campesino, photographed with El Campesino a few months before he fell on the field of battle at Teruel



CUBANS DEMONSTRATING in New York man from the left, wearing a dark suit, bareheaded youth in the row behind the flag;



TWO CUBAN OFFICERS in the 46th Division conversing with Langston Hughes (center), American poet and novelist. At the left is Captain Basilio Cuera, and facing Hughes is Brigade Commissar Jaime Bofill.



CUBAN DICTATOR BATISTA



against the Batista dictatorship. The second is Pablo de la Torre-Brau. The smiling, Rodolfo de Armas. Both died fighting in Spain.

ted and well-loved Commander of the first mobile shock-brigade in the same division. Basilio Cuera, well-known Cuban baseball star, who went through the Jarama battles with the Guiteras Column, is a Captain in the Campesino Division.

One of the first distinguished Cubans to die fighting was Pablo de la Torre-Brau. He was a University lecturer. In Cuba the student life has a far greater influence in politics than in the larger countries. Pablo was active from his early student days, and served several prison sentences for his convictions. He came to Spain during the early days of the war and became Political Commissar of the Battalion which was under Campesino's command in December of 1936. He died before the new year.

Many Cubans have given their lives and many more will continue to sacrifice themselves fighting with the Loyal Spanish people against the forces of fascism that would want to enslave a free people. With fascism driven out of Spain once and for all, the Cubans know that it will mean the gathering of forces to destroy fascism in the rest of the world. A victory for the Republic would be a death blow to Batista's fascist aspirations. The Cuban people, too, are waiting to strike for freedom.

Gallo Thanks the Madrid Peoples Front for Honor to International Brigades

TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S FRONT OF MADRID

Dear Comrade,

We have received your letter in which you inform us that the subscription in honor of the International Brigades which was organized by the Madrid People's Front has realized 270,000 pesetas, which you are placing at our disposition.

On my own behalf and behalf of all the volunteers in the International Brigades I thank you for your initiative in this matter in which you wish to bring out once again the unbreakable bonds of solidarity which unite us in the common struggle in defence of the freedom and independence of all the peoples; the bonds which unite the heroic people of Madrid with the peoples of the whole world who have sent their best sons here to fight in the International Brigades.

We especially thank the generous donors and we beg you to inform them of our deepest sentiments of gratitude.

The sum which you have collected was intended to pay honor to the International Brigades. For that very reason we think that it cannot be devoted only to the fighters in the International Brigades, but must also be devoted to the brave fighters in the Spanish Brigades who by their heroism have shown us the road to follow to defeat national and international fascism. Because of this we beg you to keep at your disposition 150,000 pesetas from the sum collected. You will use this as seems to you most fitting in order to aid the Spanish fighters who must now fight against the hard and inclement winter weather.

The remainder of the sum which you have put at our disposal will be devoted to meeting the cost of cultural work among the combatants in our Brigades and for the development of the work of looking after our fighters' children.

I send warmest greetings on behalf of myself and all the volunteers to you and to all those who have responded to your fine initiative.

L. GALLO



A REAL INTERNATIONAL GROUP in the early Lincoln Battalion. Left to right, the comrades grouped around their rifles are a Mexican, an American Negro, a Filipino, a Cuban and a Japanese



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INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

For correspondence, use the following address: VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY
S. R. I. 555-E PLAZA ALTOZANO ALBACETE

VOL. II — No. 7 BARCELONA FEBRUARY 28 — 1938

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE ON THE EVACUATION OF TERUEL

After the Cabinet meeting on February 22, the following official note was issued regarding the evacuation of Teruel:

«The news of the evacuation of Teruel was published by the Ministry of National Defence a few minutes after it took place. For it is the express desire of the Government to keep the country informed as to the progress of the war. The evacuation was carried out in perfect military order and without loss of effectives or of material, in accordance with the plans of the High Command. The high morale of the Republican troops was unable to overcome the accumulation of German and Italian material gathered by the rebels as a result of the advantages afforded them by the policy of Non-Intervention, which can record among its victories this most recent of the evacuation of Teruel.

«The inequality of war material, which was recently increased as a result of the shipment of abundant and frequent reinforcements of artillery and aeroplanes from Germany and Italy, was not unknown to the Government and induced it to warn the country against adversities which might take place in the progress of the war and, at the same time, to increase its efforts to obtain the necessary elements which, once the equality of means is reestablished, will increase the strength of the soldiers of the Republic. We shall overcome all kinds of difficulties and reverses which are setbacks, but by no means decisive, and annul the inequality to which we have referred.

«The People's Army, which in the last days of Teruel excelled its former heroism, will end by possessing the elements which it needs in order to oppose and resist the invaders and rebels.

«This certainty, which the Government guarantees by its work, should be interpreted in the rear as a stimulus to improve the output of our industrial production, which is indispensable if we are to obtain equality in arms.

«From a military point of view the evacuation of Teruel is of secondary importance and does not diminish the advantages obtained as a result of its capture by the Republican Army. Thanks to the effects of the capture of Teruel by the Republicans the offensive which the rebels were preparing against Madrid was frustrated and they were obliged to renounce their initiative in order to counteract ours.

«Were it not for the superiority — which will not last long — of planes and artillery accumulated by the rebels at the expense of Germany and Italy, the soldiers of the Republic who only after a heroic fight surrendered the city of Teruel, would not have evacuated it. It is not the «volunteers» who have recaptured the city, but the tremendous masses of foreign planes and artillery.»

No es hora más que de tener un solo pensamiento y una sola voluntad: aplastar al enemigo. Aplastarle luchando en el frente, traban-

jando mas en la retaguardia, persiguiéndole y desmascarándole cuando se oculta entre nosotros.

DR. JUAN NERÓN

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

F. G. Stork, writing in the Norwegian newspaper, «Arbeiderbladet» estimates Franco's forces as follows:

Italians: 120,000, divided into four divisions, entirely Italian. There is also a fifth division called «The Black Arrows», 70 per cent Italian and 30 per cent Spanish. Germans: 20,000 technicians and experts. Foreign Legion: 15,000 divided into Banderas of 1,000 each. Forty per cent of these are claimed to be volunteers. Sixty per cent are Spaniards who have entered the Legion because they are better paid (three pesetas daily). *Requetés*: 80,000 men. *Phalangists*: 45,000 men, only 10 per cent of whom are volunteers. To this list must be added the Moors and several hundred thousand Spanish conscripts.

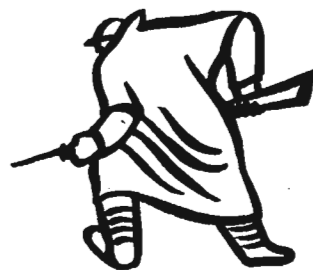
Talking of Franco's Foreign Legion, the London «Daily Express» has recently published an account by one of these Legionnaires. His name is Walter W. Schaible, and until a month ago he was a sergeant in Franco's forces, in charge of a machine gun on the Madrid front. After being wounded, he escaped from the country, back to England. His account, in part, follows:

«The brutal discipline of Franco's army got me down. I saw dozens of men beaten almost unconscious, knocked to the ground, and stamped on by an officer... At about the time of the Italians' rout at Guadalajara in March I was wounded... I was put in a hospital with a number of Ital-

own «Ten Commandments», of which we quote only one: «Mussolini is always right». That, comments the British Daily Worker, makes the other nine unnecessary.

Fascism is having its headaches in the movies as well as in other fields. A wireless to the New York Times from Berlin has the following to say about the cinematic plight of the land which has decreed thumbs down on Charlie Chaplin and Mickey Mouse:

«The year just past (1937) was a sad one for German films. The



Film Chamber has just reported that all three of Berlin's longest runs went to foreign films: two American and one French... The hoped-for revival since last Spring, when the government assumed control of the film industry financially, did not appear. German films still are not wanted except in those countries with whom Germany is politically allied... Only in Insurgent Spain were «sensational gains» made in respect to the German film-export market. Franco must swallow not only what is quaintly called his pride but also the miles of celluloid that Hitler sees fit to feed him. «Apparently», says the dispatch, «German films follow the flag.» And Der Film, German cinema organ, writes: «Before the civil war French films enjoyed the leading position. Naturally in nationalist (fascist) Spain, German and Italian films have the leading position.»

Yes, life is so beautiful in Queipo de Llana's towns in Southern Spain that scores of troops and carabinieri desert daily. The source of this statement is Gibraltar, to which the deserting men make a beeline. Further: «It is reported that about 50 artillerymen attached to the Punta Canero and Tarifa batteries disappeared one night after having bribed coastal watchmen, who escaped with them. And southern Spain used to be known as a land of milk and honey!



ians. The stories I heard from them put me off fascism forever...»

Schaible's estimate of the number of Moors in Franco's army is 1,000,000. When he got back to the firing line, he says, it took him only a couple of days to realize he was up against a vastly improved enemy. «Our casualties», he writes, «were nearly twice as many as theirs.»

Mussolini has recently issued his

THE ATTACK AND COUNTER-ATTACK

Decisions in war are not won by passive action. To defend may be strategically necessary to bring about the proper method for decisive action, but the decision itself as to the outcome of a battle or a war depends upon the determination with which the principle of attack is carried forward.

ATTACK

Attacks, in general, are divided into certain quite definite phases. *First* there is the advance in column, when troops continue to move forward in solid bodies; at this point they are out of range of any type of fire. *Second* when they come within the zone of artillery fire they adopt what is known as the "approach march formation", called in the Spanish Army the "artillery formation", the widely separate files moving cautiously forward to avoid casualties from shrapnel. *Third*, as soon as these files come within the zone of maximum range machine gun fire they are deployed into combat formation and continue to advance cautiously. *Fourth*, as they come within closer range of the effective machine gun and rifle fire, there comes the period of advancing the attack. It is at this time that the principles of fire and movement must both be employed. These principles are carried forward until the attacking troops are within hand grenade distance of the enemy line, at which time, *fifth*, the assault takes place suddenly and with great determination. Untrained troops, as a rule, generally consider that when a successful assault has been completed the attack is over. This is

Fourth of a Series of Five Articles Dealing with
Military Questions, by the Commander of
the Battalion of Instruction N.º 15

MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON



incorrect, for the enemy is organized in depth and the infantry attack must be continued from objective to objective. *Sixth*, following the assault must come the passing of the enemy line, the reorganizing of their troops and the preparation, immediately, to carry forward the attack to the next objective. When a series of objectives has been attained, at the commander's discretion one of two things will be in the *seventh* phase, whether to pursue the enemy if he breaks or to organize the ground seized if the enemy's resistance is still determined.

COUNTER-ATTACK

It is necessary, also, to remind commanders that, since the best defence is attack, the enemy will

work. Any delay on their part permits him to re-organize himself on his secondary lines and helps him to make a determined counter-attack against us from his reserve lines of resistance.

SKILL BRINGS VICTORY

The imperative necessity in all actions is the determination on our part to carry forward our attacks in a skilled, determined and disciplined manner, to protect ourselves as much as possible with our own fire and when delivering an attack, to deliver it with suddenness and ferocity, remembering, always, that the greater the surprise in the delivery of an attack and the greater the determination displayed during that attack, the more paralyzing the psychological effect upon the enemy forces. Great victories are never won by indecisive, unskilled and shilly-shallying troops, but, to the contrary, such troops may only expect defeat and be forced into the unpleasant necessity of retreating and defending their lines. There is little question that the moral qualities of our soldiers are greater than those of the fascists and that if our troops are properly trained and our plans are carried out with vigor, determination and ferocity our enemy will soon be defeated.

¡Ojo a los agentes de Franco!

Se ocultan bajo todas las máscaras:
Intentan enfrentar a internacionales contra internacionales,
internacionales contra españoles,
reclutas contra antiguos combatientes, militantes de un partido contra militantes de otro.

Aislemos, eliminemos de nuestras filas a los que intentan la división.

Reforcemos cada vez más los lazos de la solidaridad y de la fraternidad entre todos los combatientes.



GIRLS MAKING MUNITIONS in one of our war factories. By doing so they know they are contributing toward the final victory of our cause

LETTERS FROM HOME

Friends of Mac-Paps
Write to « Volunteer »

Editor, The Volunteer
Dear Friend:

Thank you for letter acknowledging ours addressed to all the Canadian volunteers in Spain. We are very glad that it was printed in The Volunteer for Liberty. We are now receiving copies of The Volunteer at more or less regular intervals and we are exceedingly glad to get it as it helps to keep us in touch with the boys in Spain...

We have, as you doubtless already know, wound up a very successful drive for a Christmas fund in which our objective was fulfilled 150 per cent. As a result a large shipment of warm clothing and Christmas cheer was sent to our Canadian boys...

Our best wishes and salud!

BEATRICE COLLE

Secretary, Friends of
the Mackenzie-Papineau
Battalion

« A Breath of Spain
Into This Town... »

Dear B....

I received your letter this week, also the posters and cards. I am naturally happy to hear from you, and especially happy to get the swell posters. It brings a breath of Spain into this town...

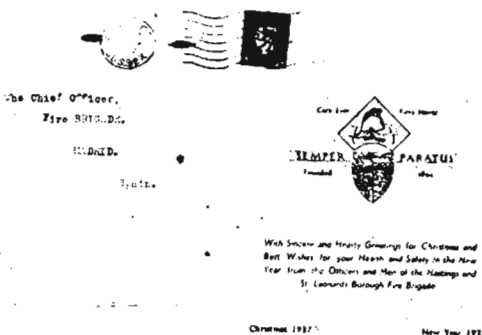
I have featured the Spanish war frequently in the magazine (The New Pioneer, youth publication). I ran a center spread once, pictures mostly, and a letter from a high school student in Spain. (Incidentally, I hear that the 15th Brigade has as its patron organization the Federation of University Students in Madrid. Right?) You will find stories about Spain as well as what the kids here are doing about collecting money in all recent issues.

I am offering the posters you

¡ Jefes, comisarios y soldados del Ejército Popular! : Todos los españoles se esfuerzan por superarse. Superaos también vosotros. Ni un palmo de tierra al extranjero. Con disciplina rigida, con capacitation concienzuda, con heroismo inabastable, haced de nuestro Ejército el Ejército victorioso de una España independiente, libre y feliz. »

DR. JUAN NEGRÍN

GREETING FROM ENGLISH FIRE BRIGADE



SOLIDARITY among fire fighters. The Christmas card reproduced above was sent to the heroic and hard-working firemen of Madrid by the Fire Brigade of the Hastings and St. Leonards Borough, Sussex, England.

sent me as prizes to the branch which sends in the highest donation for the month. A poster each month. I might try the same with the books you sent. I'm still trying to get someone to translate them.

It is not easy to find a good translator. The Spanish-speaking comrades here have their hands full. I guess I'll have to wait until some of the Americans get back. If you don't know Spanish after more

AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS CITED IN "HONOR ROLL FOR 1937"

Three citations to Americans who are working or have worked in Loyalist Spain are included in «The Nation's Honor Roll for 1937», a copy of which has just reached The Volunteer. This magazine has for the past ten years chosen those Americans who, in the editors' opinion, have distinguished themselves « as individuals or as groups » and therefore « deserve the applause of their countrymen ». The citations follow:

« MEMBERS OF THE LINCOLN AND WASHINGTON BATTALIONS, living and dead, who have fought in the International Brigade in Loyalist Spain for the defense of the cultural heritage common to all democratic peoples. »

« HERBERT L. MATTHEWS of The New York Times and JAMES M. MINIFIE of The New York Herald Tribune, for the sustained quality of their correspondence on the Spanish Civil War. »

« JORIS IJENS and his associates, for filming and producing « Spanish Earth. »

The first citation, we are sure, is meant for all Americans who have come to Spain, not only those in the Lincoln-Washington. At home it is not widely known that Americans are scattered over many units throughout Spain. It is not known that there were many Americans in the 26th Battalion of the 86th Brigade, which for more

than seven months held the lines on the Southern, Cordoba front. Nor is it common knowledge that we have our men in the American Artillery Battery, in another artillery battery in training, in anti-air batteries, in the hard-working 1st Regiment de Tren, in auto-parks throughout the land as well as in dozens of other services. And the Americans in the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion needn't feel they have been overlooked; they too are included. It all boils itself down to the simple fact that our friends at home, for the sake of simplicity (and also because they are not so closely confronted with the complexities of war time activities) look upon all Americans in Spain as Lincoln-Washingtons.

About the men named in these three citations The Nation says:

« In a world in which courage is at a premium they have been courageous; they have been intelligent when intelligence was sorely needed; in public affairs, journalism, or the arts they have made a contribution, by a particular act or by their general behavior, which is worthy of honorable notice. »

Soldados: Cuidad constantemente vuestras armas. Ellas son la garantía de la victoria y la garantía de vuestra propia seguridad.

than a year in Spain, you're n.g.!

I would appreciate stories and poems about Spain for the New Pioneer, written specially with an eye toward the youngsters reading them. Will you tell the fellows about this? In addition to printing these things in the magazine, we could offer the original manuscript as a prize. Generally the effect would be to raise more dough for Spain...

How are Abe H. and Bob S. and the others? Tell them all to write. We here are actually systematizing our letter-writing to you guys in Spain from now on, and anyone who fails to write is going to get his pants kicked... In the meantime, Salud, and you'll be hearing from me regularly.

For victory of the Peoples Front,
PHIL

(For those who are interested, the material mentioned in the above letter is wanted by the New Pioneer, 80 Fifth Avenue, Room 1203, New York, N. Y.)

..... después de haber visto la capacidad de nuestro Ejército, sopesando exactamente las disponibilidades del enemigo, pero teniendo también en cuenta la cantera inagotable de energías que constituye nuestro pueblo, yo os puedo decir, sin miedo a equivocarme: Triunfaremos.

DR. JUAN NEGRÍN

Chinese Youth Mobilized Against Japan Invasion

The mobilization of the Chinese masses against the fascist invaders is well illustrated in the following item:

«The struggle for China's national liberation is drawing in the broad masses of the Chinese people. In the Kwang-si Province alone, a million young Chinese have been mobilized for the struggle against the Japanese invaders. Already 300,000 have been sent to the fronts and the remaining 700,000 are receiving military training and are prepared to leave at any moment. The women are also acquiring military training and are forming women's detachments».

177 Prominent Americans Protest Franco's Crimes

A petition signed by 477 representatives of the religious, cultural and artistic life of the U. S. A. has been presented to President Roosevelt, asking him to protest against the bombing of the civil population in Spain. Eight bishops and a number of University presidents are among the signers.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 8

Barcelona, March 7 - 1938

THE FIFTEENTH BRIGADE IN ACTION

During the recent actions of the 15th International Brigade I was on an Army Corps Staff for a short time. I had heard of the 15th Brigade, But I had never known it closely. In the course of the actions I am about to tell, I became intimately acquainted with this fine Brigade.

We are assigned to perform military operations in the sector X... A few hours before the operations are scheduled to begin, I take part in a Brigade Staff meeting. The Commissar reports. He speaks briefly, and every word he utters is full of confidence and responsibility. He says: "The battalions are prepared for battle. The officers and commissars are talking to the soldiers. Our comrades are anxious and ready to obey the orders of their superiors, in whom they have complete confidence. All services are fully prepared. First Aid and Medical Services are supplied sufficiently with the necessary equipment and men. We shall work well."

At night the Brigade moves into action. In the darkness the men advance a few kilometers toward the enemy position. They crawl all night. Before the break of day, the soldiers of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion are the first to begin operations. They charge the fascist trenches like a stroke of lightning. The enemy, surprised, surrenders immediately. At dawn the banner of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion is seen waving on the crest of the newly-conquered hill.

The Lincoln Battalion is assigned to storm a virtual fortress, also situated on a hill. It is important to capture that hill to insure the advance of our brigades. The men of the Lincoln proceed to carry on their mission.

I witness the entire operation. By lunch time our artillery lays down a heavy barrage. The fascists respond to our guns. Then the music of the trench mortars begins. When the guns are once again silent, the Lincolns resume

By WLADYSLAW STOPCZYK
War Commissar of the 45th Division

infiltrating toward the enemy. Carefully and courageously they advance. From our dugout we view the scene of battle as clearly as one sees the palm of the hand. We see the movements of each soldier and we confess it to be one of the rarest scenes of the war.

The mastery with which the Battalion carries on the battle shows that each soldier knows what he is doing. Each knows how to take advantage of each stone, bush, tree stem and declivity in the ground. The Battalion Commander directs brilliantly. Both the

officers and men demonstrate a superb mastery of military technique.

It takes one and a half hours to accomplish their operations. They act with audacity and skill. After nearing the enemy positions they begin to encircle them. They get close enough to be able to throw hand grenades into the enemy trenches. The enemy opens fire. The attackers take advantage of the ground so well and skilfully that even though they throw grenades into the enemy positions, the enemy cannot see who is doing it. This demoralizes the enemy; they are baffled.

An unforgettable scene follows. In spite of a heavy machine gun fire, a few comrades on their own volition dash out and cut the barbed wire. This is done to facilitate the final attack by the battalion on the fascist forces. From the left flank a group of volunteers rush through the barbed wire and hurl hand grenades. A group behind do not allow the enemy to retreat. In this manner the enemy is confused and surrounded by an unbreakable iron ring of the steeled Lincoln Battalion. When the shock soldiers finish their work of demoralizing the enemy, the final and decisive charge is made. With a shout of victory our boys plunge swiftly and drop into the fascist trenches and force the enemy to surrender.

On the top of Mountain X... the proud banner of the Lincoln Battalion of the 15th International Brigade is raised.

Important lessons can be learned from the whole battle. It shows us how we can carry on our future battles against the fascist forces and beat them with the minimum of losses for us (The Battalion had only four wounded. It captured more than 100 fascists, among whom were a few officers). It shows that by employing a good organized plan of attack and defence we can insure victory and at the same time spare the lives of many of our comrades.



FASCIST CRUISER SUNK BY REPUBLICAN FLEET. The "Balears", 10,000 ton rebel cruiser, smoking and wallowing hopelessly after being hit by torpedoes from Republican destroyers in the biggest naval encounter since the World War. The "Balears" was with the rebel fleet, "Canarias" and the "Almirante Cervera", and was sunk 70 miles from Cape Palos after a big battle that took place early Sunday morning, March 6. (Read the complete story in our next issue.)



WLADYSLAW STOPCZYK
Commissar of the 45th Division,
whose account of our Brigade
appears on page 1.

Americans Donate Auto-chir to Spain

A new mobile operating theatre (auto-chir), donated to the Spanish Government by the American people, has been turned over to the General Inspection of the Medical Service of the Army in Barcelona. Other auto-chirs have previously been given to Spain through the American Medical Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy.

The auto-chir was officially presented by Doctor Irving Busch and Dr. Edward K. Barsky, co-commanders of the American medical units in Spain, to Sr. Fernández Bolaños, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of National Defense.

Don Luis Companys, President of the Generalidad of Catalonia

Señor Companys was born in the village of Tarrós, Province of Lérida. He studied law at the University of Barcelona where he obtained his degree at a very early age.

As a student he founded the Unión Escolar Republicana (Republican Students' Union), an organization with a left-wing tendency which played a considerable part in establishing a new spirit and a new orientation in the centers of higher education.

He was editor of «La Lucha» (The Fight), a Republican newspaper. Through this instrument Companys, together with Layret, Marcelino Domingo and other politicians and writers carried out important work.

He was Republican deputy for Sabadell in various legislatures and in this capacity always showed his love for the Republic and his admiration for the ideals of freedom and justice.

Before the Dictatorship he founded the Unión de Rehabasaires (Peasant's Trade Union) which is today one of the most important peasant organizations in Spain and which is fighting with great enthusiasm for the rights of the workers of the land.

As a result of all these activities he was persecuted by the Dictatorship and imprisoned on several occasions.



When the second dictator (Bereguener) fell, Companys was in prison in the Castle of La Mola, having been condemned for his Republican ideas.

Together with Col. Macia he called a meeting of the Asamblea de Izquierdas (Left Assembly) in March 1931 and founded the Left Republican Party of Catalonia. This Party presented its candidature in the civic elections of April 14 and Companys was elected councillor for Barcelona.

He was named Mayor of Barcelona and that very day, April 14, at 1:25 p. m., he proclaimed the Republic in Catalonia. On April 15 he was made Civil Governor of Barcelona, giving up the post of Mayor.

In the general election for the Cortes Constituyentes he was elected by a large majority and was appointed leader of the Catalan group in parliament, composed of all parties and numbering 52 deputies. Later he became President of the Catalan Left Group.

In the Cortes he strongly advocated the granting of autonomy to Catalonia and the passing of the Statute to this effect, always, however, bearing in mind constitutional precepts.

Later he became a deputy in the Catalan Parliament, of which he was elected the first President.

In 1933 he became Minister of Marine and after Macia's death was elected President of the Generalitat (Government) of Catalonia. This was in January 1934. As a result of the revolt of October 6, 1934, he was again imprisoned until February 1936, when he was reinstated as President of the Generalitat by the Popular Front. He has held this post ever since and is respected not only by the whole Catalan people but by everyone in the Spanish Republic.

Bill's Method of Learning the Language

You hear some fellows say that they can't sit down and learn the Spanish language, it's too difficult, and they gave up doing that sort of thing when they left school. What I say to them is, they're learning a new profession, most of them from the start, so what's

the difference? The language isn't so difficult to pick up. That's what Bill and I found.

I dare say Bill speaks a bit better than I do. He never felt shy of trying. He'd go blundering on with what words he knew, and didn't care who laughed.

When he saw something written up, he'd have a guess at it. The first time we came down in the train, we were pulling into a station when we saw a board up that said «Silbar». I asked Bill what he thought it meant and he said it would be the name of the town.

Next stop, same thing. Bill reckoned one would be Upper Silbar and the other Lower Silbar, like at home. When we got to a third town and it was still called the same, I said we seemed to be dragging this town Silbar along with us. So Bill got busy, and in the end he found the word meant «Whistle».

Same way, when we were travelling on the road, Bill always looked round for what he could see. On the way up to Aragon we stopped beside what appeared to be a pub called «Posada Carmen».

«Pub's what it is», Bill said. «Posada», that means Good pull up for».

Well, he hit it lucky, as it means «lodging house», which is roughly the same. What he didn't know was that «Carmen» doesn't mean «carmen», it's just a fancy name.

He'd got an idea for this «Ulloa Optico» that you see along the roads. He said, translated literally it meant «the Hullo Eye», which would be the Spanish way of saying «the Come-Hither Look». And what was the good of that, I said, seeing that most times it was painted on the wall of an empty barn? Anyway, it turned out to be an optician's advertisement.

When Bill and I were in training, you could still buy cigarettes, if you hit a lucky day. If there weren't any, they'd hang a notice on the door. «No hay tabaco» was their way of putting it. I remember the first time Bill saw that.

«Who cares?» he said. «No one wants to smoke hay».

All that was old days. It didn't take us long to find out what «No hay» meant. We learned that next

after «Mucho bueno» and «Mucho malo».

Now, being old hands, we say «Muy» instead of «Mucho», having found out that's right. But the Spaniards say «Mucho bueno» to us, I reckon because it sounds funny and makes them laugh.

K. M.





Tom Mann Greets British Fighters

«The glorious work you have done and are doing» is mentioned with pride by Tom Mann, veteran British working class leader, in a letter written to the British volunteers in the International Brigade. The entire letter, dated February 19, follows:

«My dear comrades of the British Section of the International Brigade: My heartiest greetings to you, and again my very heartiest greetings and congratulations to you for the glorious work you have done and are doing.

«I should love to go to see you, and when I learn of the experiences of others who have visited you and fraternised with you, I certainly wish I could also meet you and shake you by the hand and embrace you; I am in good physical health and am able to get about to meetings, but my knees are affected by arthritis, which makes me slow in doing stairs, and having synovitis also I am liable to a sudden pull up, and that would make me a nuisance if I attempted to visit you. So I must be content to talk about you here and do what I can to help in the various methods open to such as me.

«I am sure you will accept our love and good wishes and be fully assured of our very genuine concern in all your doings, and honest endeavours to make things as comfortable as possible for you and yours.

«Comrade Harry Pollitt, as you know, is spreading information about you far and wide, and many of the others are also doing well in this regard. Professor Haldane and Charlotte his wife are also constantly at work in spreading inside information and in stoking up to activity those who otherwise might be laggardly.

«Again let me say I have the privilege of still doing a bit at meetings and in various ways, and count it an honour. In April I shall be eighty-two, so I have had a very fair innings, and must not be too disappointed if Daddy Time makes a call.

«Best Love to you Comrades all,
«Yours in the Cause,

Tom Mann.»

El discurso del Jefe del Gobierno ha conmovido al pueblo español. Quizá fuera injusto hacer en este caso una distinción entre el pueblo español libre y el prisionero de Franco, y por eso no la hacemos. El dolor de la guerra es uno en las dos zonas y una debe de ser la emoción de la verdad. Hasta es presumible que el roce humillante con los invasores y los insurrectos disponga mejor que la convivencia en el territorio republicano, para exprimir y saborear la savia de las palabras del señor Negrín. Es fácil apreciar la reacción que el discurso ha determinado en las distintas parcelas de la opinión pública. Los trabajadores, parte principalísima de la resistencia republicana, se han sentido claramente aludidos. De cara al problema de la producción de guerra, que es la mitad justamente del problema militar, el Presidente del Consejo ha destacado el derecho que los combatientes tienen a que se les cubra rápidamente el déficit de armamentos. Ello equivale a confrontar dos deberes, el del que da su sangre y el del que rinde su esfuerzo manual, y al prometerles el Jefe del Gobierno a los soldados que tendrían pronto el material que precisan, es que confiaba virtualmente en los trabajadores. Esta confianza no tolera objeciones. Es impropio del señor Negrín fantasear, y cuando transfiere a la industria de guerra el remedio que la situación demanda, podemos estar seguros de que por un procedimiento u otro realizará sus previsiones. El Gobierno cree, y con el Gobierno el pueblo español, que de aquí en adelante no puede prosperar ninguna actitud que le dé de lado a la guerra. Nada, absolutamente nada, tiene fuerza hoy para regatear la ayuda que exige la patria en peligro. Si la democracia con su régimen de libertad individual fallara, el instinto popular acabaría confiriendo poderes rígidos. En efecto, una nación en pie de guerra no debe distinguir entre la responsabilidad del soldado y la responsabilidad del ciudadano, sea cual fuere su función. El supuesto de que la prestación de la vida sea más obligatoria que la prestación de unas horas de trabajo, va pareciendo a todo el mundo una repugnante deslealtad, y faltaría a su deber el Gobierno que la tolerase. Adelantándose a la declaración del Presidente del Consejo, los Partidos y Organizaciones obreras han demostrado que en su ánimo está hacer suya aquella tesis de severa disciplina. Buenaventura Durruti pronunció en Madrid unas nobles palabras, a las que los acontecimientos devuelven actualidad: «Yo renuncio a todo, menos a la victoria.» El esforzado luchador comprendía que renunciando a la victoria el proletariado renunciaba a todo, a la vida y al honor revolucionario. No era, pues, excesivo el sacrificio que se recomendaba a sí mismo.

Juzgamos haber definido la reacción mental de la clase productora, ante el discurso del señor Negrín. Resaltarían en el equívoco los que



hicieran otras deducciones. El ciclo de organización ciudadana para la guerra prosigue. El deber capital aflora, cada día más robusto, sobre los deberes secundarios. Venice la libertad racional a la libertad arbitraria. Las minorías propensas al desconsuelo, por tener la fe enteca y el egoísmo orondo, han sentido con el discurso suscitados sus remordimientos, y hoy reconocen que la voz del señor Negrín es la auténtica voz de la patria. No han dejado, tampoco, los intelectuales, de experimentar la fuerte corriente moral del ilustre hombre de Estado, y un documento, precioso por el texto y por las firmas, avisa que los doctos y los artistas

ven incluida en la política del señor Negrín la causa universal de la cultura.

Fuera de España sin duda alcanzará el discurso hondos resonancias. Palabra por palabra, en la dicción y en el espíritu, lo que ha dicho el señor Negrín es en cierto modo una réplica a lo que ha dicho Hitler. Europa ha tenido quien, enuncie la doctrina de la agresión, pero también quien diga cuál debe ser la conducta de los pueblos que no se resignan a ser colonizados por el fascismo. La República española echa mano de la moral que guarda en sus arcaes el viejo y duro pueblo, y con ella se promete triunfar. La consigna a las naciones vacilantes es bien clara: contra los grandes aventureros internacionales sólo existe una fórmula: querer luchar. Finalmente, formando cadencia, más bien tenue, con las prescripciones de nuestro Primer Ministro, la Cámara de los Diputados francesa ha contribuido a resucitar la creencia de que la democracia y la cultura no están desamparadas. Los señores Chautemps y Delbos, oficialmente, han repetido que Francia no es indiferente a la independencia de España. Este sentimiento de amistad encuentra base sólida en el hecho de que la República española, por boca de su Gobierno, renueva su vocación de pueblo libre y su empeño de mantenerla desesperadamente, hasta el último hombre y el último cartucho.

THE VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

The VOLUNTEER for LIBERTY

ORGAN OF
THE VETERANS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES
(AMERICAN CHAPTER)

We dedicate this first issue of the VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY to the memory of our fellow Americans who gave up their lives in Spain.

These men were brave, though they disliked being told so. Their embarrassment before extravagant praise—an embarrassment which we all shared—arose from their realization that courage is not something which is known only in Spain or which rises miraculously only in the presence of death. It must not be, it can not be divorced from the complex texture of character, growing through natural development and built solidly on experience. Most of these men learned lessons of devotion and self-sacrifice in the labor movement in America. Their going to Spain, was merely a logical extension of their actions here. They themselves saw nothing sudden or startling or surprising in all this.

We are proud to do honor to these our friends and companions, with whom we marched and beside whom we fought.

GREETINGS TO OUR NAMESAKE! We reproduce the masthead and leading editorial from the organ of the Veterans of the I. B. Everyone will agree when we wish this new paper a longer life than our own Volunteer hopes for

CANADIANS IN SPAIN

Since the first volunteers from the North American continent arrived here more than fourteen months ago, Canada has sent more than 1,000 young men to Spain. Canada, a country with a population of 13,000,000, can certainly be proud of this living, fighting fact — its contribution to the struggle of world democracy against fas-



cism, its contribution to the fight of the people of Spain.

The people of Canada, who slumbered peacefully for a long time under the illusion that fascism would never become a major threat to the rights of democratic countries, were abruptly awakened to reality by the news flashes of July 19, 1936. Those events are many times over twice-told tales — too well known to be repeated now. Suffice it to say that the people of Canada made their feelings known in no uncertain terms. Throughout the Dominion, Committees to Aid Spanish Democracy were formed. In September, 1936, the official voice of Canadian labor went on record as fully supporting the Spanish Government, while the great masses of unemployed in the large Canadian cities demanded that the King government send them to Spain.

DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME

Such a demand was not approved by the King government, which immediately took steps to hinder the development of Canadian support to Spain. Passports were made extremely difficult to obtain. A law was passed penalizing Canadian citizens who fought in foreign wars. Intimidation of



BRIGADE ENTERTAINS a visitor: the men listening to Earl Browder during his recent visit to Spain.

individuals was carried to the limit by the Federal police.

None of these things, however, could break the determination of thousands of anti-fascists who intended to come to the aid of their Spanish brothers, whatever the costs. Stimulated by the news of the first International columns fighting in the defense of Madrid, the first Canadian volunteers left for Spain in December, 1936, at about the same time that the first volunteers from the United States were leaving. At first they came in small, inconspicuous groups, arriving at the training base in the early days of January, 1937. The first group came from the city of Toronto. Among them were Thomas Becket, who was captured at Jarama when the truck in which he was riding drove into fascist lines, and Frederick Lackey, who was killed during the attack of February 27. Lawrence (Larry) Ryan, who was wounded on the same day, is now in a Canadian sanitarium recovering from tuberculosis contracted while fighting here in Spain.

SECOND GROUP ARRIVES

On February 9, nine more Canadians arrived. Of these, Joe Campbell, French Canadian from Montreal, was killed on February 27; and Sergeant Jack Steele was sent to the Officers School from the Jarama front because of his good work in the lines. He commanded a machine-gun section in the Lincoln Battalion during the Brunete offensive of last July. Today he is back in Canada, heading the rehabilitation work for returning Spanish war veterans. Arthur Morris, a member of the James Connolly section of the Lincoln Battalion, was killed on the 27th while attempting to bring in a wounded comrade. He was killed, but his memory lives on, as do the memories of other fine comrades such as Adrian Van der Brugge, Elias Avieser, George Leskowsky, A. M. Garcia, Fred

Lackey, Liege Claire and Francis Morin. These were our dead.

Among those who came through the battles at Jarama as well as Brunete were Izzie Kupehik, Mike Kushni, Lucien Lattilupe, Mike Zagar, Harvey Hall, Bedard, Porier, Roger Biladcau, Walter Marinuk, Thomas Russell, Pat Stevens, Martin Trier, James Dames and Wally Dent. The last two named were wounded at Jarama. Good fighters, every single one, French Canadians, English Canadians, Slavic Canadians. Industrial workers and unemployed youths, men of all professions, who joined the Lincoln Battalion and fought side by side with their American brothers, side by side with the whole Spanish people, against the mercenaries and dupes of Franco and international fascism.

The training base for the English-speaking volunteers was transferred to another town, from which the first group of trained Canadians left for the front. They



were the major part of a section of forty men selected from the "recruit battalions" to act as replacements for the Lincoln's. Placed under the command of Joe Armitage, they left by trucks for the Jarama front on April 17. After a long tiresome journey, they arrived at 15th Brigade Headquarters, where they were met by Lt. Col. Claus, who made a short speech. From there they marched to the Battalion kitchen, where they had a good feed. Captain Marty Hourihan, Commander of the Lincoln Battalion, gave them a short talk on what was expected of them, then placed them in charge of Lieutenant Paul Burns, who marched them up to the Jarama front. The various company commanders and section leaders met them, and they were distributed where they were most needed.

On May 19, one of the Canadians among these forty, Bob Kerr, Commissar of one of the sections, was taken out of the lines and assigned to the Base as representative of all the Canadians in Spain. His main purpose was to give all necessary assistance in



MAJOR ED CECIL SMITH, Commander of the Mac-Paps, in a photo taken shortly before he won his new rank.

the formation of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion.

The Lincoln still needed replacements to reach full battalion strength. From the ranks of the Washington Battalion, a new American unit in training, forty Canadians were selected to join the Lincoln. This second section of forty, commanded by Paddy O'Neil, moved up on the evening of June 13, together with the Washington Battalion. They arrived at a town 15 kilometers from the Jarama front, and there they were quartered. The following afternoon the Canadian section was assigned to the ranks of the Lincoln.

There were many notable young lads among these forty who were killed on July 6, the first day of Brunete, their first battle: Jimmie Kane of Toronto, an active member of the Longshoremen's Union; Paddy O'Neill, section leader of the Canadians, lumber worker and World War Veteran, who was killed because he refused to leave his men but continued to advance even after he had been wounded; John Oscar Bloom of Edmonton, 22 years old; Bryce Colman and Joe Armitage, men who were loved not only by their comrades-in-arms but also by the civilian population of the town where the battalion had spent many weeks.

CANADIANS AT BRUNETE

During those twenty bitter days of fighting on the Brunete front, the people of Canada lost a number of brave fighters. John Deck, Canadian seaman, chief scout of the Lincoln Battalion, and Nick Harboecian, young member of the Cooperative Commonwealth Youth movement, who had

graduated from the officers school and joined the Lincoln on July 7 - both were killed in the attack of the 9th. Gabor Genei, Canadian Hungarian, was killed by machine gun fire on July 17, while digging an advance post for a light machine gun.

It does not suffice to enumerate those who are gone, without mentioning the fine work of those who are still with us: Christie, and Pop Brown, Canadian section commissar, who saw to it that the boys got their share of the food and rations; Bill Wilson, who would go through shellfire, blistering heat, with very little water to drink and an occasional aviation bombardment every mealtime, just to bring the boys their mail from the folks back home; Pete Neilson, a group leader in the Canadian section who is now a lieutenant in the Lincoln-Washington; George Cunningham, one of the first forty to join the Lincoln, who became a company commissar in the British Battalion; Tommy Lyons, one of the first Canadians to come to Spain, who was through the Jarama battles as well as Brunete and Aragon, who was made a lieutenant in the British Battalion. Space does not permit the mention of many others, equally deserving of mention.

MAC-PAPS IN ACTION

There were Canadians in the Washington Battalion from the beginning of the Brunete offensive who proved to be worthy representatives of their country. Ed Cecil Smith was a company commander in the Washington and was wounded leading his men into action on July 6. Later, after the attack at Fuentes de Ebro on October 13, he became Commander of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion. Still later, he won the rank of Major on the field of battle at Teruel. Aliek Miller, war veteran, was a lieutenant in the Washington. He was wounded at Quinto. Young Charlie Bartollata, 19-year-old red-headed lad from Toronto, who was wounded in the leg following Harry Hynes up Mosquito Ridge.

This account is but a beginning. It includes little of the record of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion up to the present, nor does it exhaust the record of the Canadians who served in other units, both before and since the Mac-Paps came into being. But it does give an indication of the Canadians' role in Spain and it points the way to the raw material out of which a real history of Canadians in Spain will some day, I am sure, be written.

B. B.

American Seamen Raise Funds for Battalion



HELP FROM HOME, in the form of the above dollar certificate, comes naturally enough from the National Maritime Union, many of whose best members have enrolled in the fight against fascism here. The money collected will reach the Lincoln-Washington in the form of clothes, provisions and (it's hoped) cigarets and tobacco

MATTHEWS WRITES ON MAC-PAPS

The following story is a section of a wireless dispatch to The New York Times by Herbert L. Matthews. Although it is more than a month old (dated January 29), we are reprinting it because of its obvious interest to our comrades in the 15th Brigade:

The story of stories here now is how the 'Mac-Pap' Battalion threw back a cavalry charge on Jan. 17, although it was almost surrounded. (The cavalry had been previously described as Moors.) The defenders had a position on a hill that dipped down to the right

and rose to another hill, which the British Battalion occupied. Captain Cecil Smith the Canadian commander of the 'Mac-Pap' and his staff were in the back part of their hill, protected by the Third Company under Ricardo Diaz.

The position was important and the Rebel command had worked out a daring plan to capture it by means of a cavalry charge. This is ordinarily a rare tactic, but in an open battle like this mounted troops have their value.

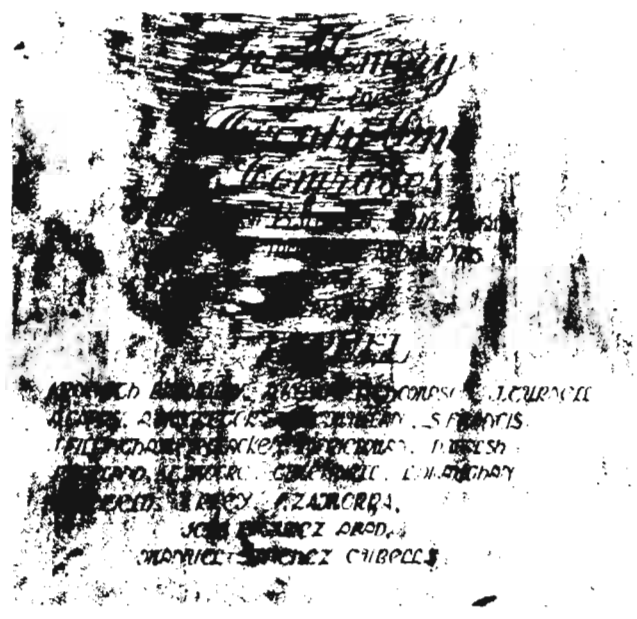
The Insurgents swept, under their artillery barrage, between the two hills, moving so quickly that there was no stopping them. Then they wheeled toward the right and charged straight at Captain Smith and his staff. That was the critical moment, for if the staff partly broke or was overrun the entire battalion might well have been captured.

There were three machine guns protecting the staff. Captain Smith had them brought up quickly, and they let go at a murderously short distance. Diaz's company held firm and poured rifle fire into the enemy. The Rebel column wavered, then broke and fell back.

In returning it had to pass between the inflaming fire of the 'Mac-Pap' and the British, who had coolly held their position throughout. I was told that a good deal less than half of that cavalry force got back into its line. Against soldiers with modern arms who refuse to run cavalry cannot be effective.

General Walter, the division chief, and Colonel Modesto, the commander, were so satisfied with the showing of the 'Mac-Pap' that the next day Captain Smith was made a Major and Diaz was made a Captain, while the battalion heard high words of praise. So I not only found the brigade intact this morning, but rather pleased with itself in a modest way.

MEMORIAL TO BRITISH DEAD



THIS MEMORIAL to the twenty-one comrades of the 57th (British) Battalion of the Fifteenth Brigade was planted on a high hill overlooking Teruel. Delegations representing the four companies of the Battalion attended the silent ceremony in the lead of night—silent because any sound would have drawn the immediate fire of the enemy



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THE IMPORTANCE OF JOHN DOE

John Doe is an ancient fiction. When the man in the street needs a name, this is what he is issued with. No man of flesh and blood bears it, or if he does, it was his parents' error. For public purposes there is no such individual. He was invented to make life easier for English-speaking people. A volunteer of the Fifteenth Brigade found him on the postal regulations, and for the next few minutes his life became harder.

The volunteer discovered that he was instructed, when addressing his home letters, to follow the example given, which had John Doe fitted out with a handsome sounding apartment. He took this literally and was upset.

He wanted to know who this guy Doe was, and why letters had to be addressed to him. It particularly worried him to think that his private letters were to be opened and read by someone back in his country of whom he had never even heard. Such is fame, even for an ancient fiction.

The answer, so far as the volunteer is concerned, is that this time there is nothing in a name. It would be more than unfortunate if such an accident were to discourage him from keeping in touch with the people at home. For an International volunteer, it amounts to a duty. It is a temptation to scout this obligation, on the grounds that soldier's duty is heavy enough without it. To put it bluntly, most men who do not write home avoid it because they dislike it. There is always time to write during periods of rest or reserve.

The feelings of friends and relatives are worth a moment's thought for their own sake, but that is a man's own affair. There is a far more important reason why letters should be written. People at home read the bare outline of our news in their journals. They cannot catch from the newspapers the real feeling of the men themselves, or the spirit by which our army grows; and this is ultimately our strongest weapon. Only personal messages can fully convey this feeling.

One letter from a soldier is worth a headline in bold type, half an inch deep. It has a truer ring. When such letters get home, they are passed on, quoted, read out at meetings, and everybody listens to them. Our friends at home depend on us. If they know we have a good spirit, they will catch it. In turn, the spirit they show will affect the policy of their governments and therefore, in the end our letters are ammunition for our own guns.

Just now, we want all the ammunition of this kind that we can get. Recent events have given everybody a sharp awakening. This is the moment to put over a big barrage and keep them awake. It is to be hoped that volunteers will remember this, and when they are not in action will use their time to advantage by telling the world that they are very much alive.

To volunteer for service in Spain is in itself effective propaganda, especially among acquaintances whose convictions are not very strong. Personal contact with the war sets them thinking, and often talking. If a volunteer can bring himself to write to these more distant sympathisers as well as to the circle of his closer friends, he will be following up the work already well begun and spreading propaganda where it is needed. He can probably remember certain friends who have no convictions at all. Far from neglecting them, he should do his best to fill the vacuum. Letters from men in the fighting line, whatever the war, are read with more interest and attention than is given to casual correspondence.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Reports continue to seep out of Gibraltar about shiploads of Italian infantrymen docking across the bay. Ditto with the German « technicians » on the northern seaboard of Spain. Whenever Hitler or Mussolini shoots his mouth off about withdrawal of troops and « regulation » of foreign combatants, it means there are a couple of thousand new guns shooting dum-dums in Spain. Or a new squadron of planes bombing the kids playing soldiers in the streets of Barcelona, Valencia, Tarragona, Lérida... Continuing with Gibraltar: last week we spoke of the artillerymen deserting to the Rock from fascist-held southern Spain. It's driving de Llano's yes-men nuts. Because of it they have been forced to station a large detachment of cavalry in the area between Spain and Gibraltar. And shore watchmen are equipped with machine guns. In addition all the territory between Tarifa, Algeciras and La Línea now is unwilling host to battalions of border guards (removed from front duty to stop the leakage), under orders to open up on any boats or men sighted attempting to escape. Meanwhile, Yes-Man-in-Chief de Llano is belching more quietly these days, and not in public anymore. It seems de Llano's boss, Franco, got orders from his bosses in Rome and Berlin to make the Seville donkey stop braying...

Last week we referred to a Berlin dispatch about the sad state of the Nazi cinema. Here's an additional quote: « The German desire to cooperate with Italy and Japan has been checked by the technical inferiority of Italian and Japanese films and the resultant impossibility of forcing the German public to attend theatres where they are showing. » Movie celluloid seems to be the only highly-inflammable material that won't do its stuff for the fascists... There's a guy in the machine gun company of the Lincoln-Washingtons who says the hell with all this stuff about the fascist zone. He's got his fists ready for a guy back in the States. « I once thought he was a pal », says this anonymous American, « but he's turned out to be a dirty fascist provocateur. He keeps sending me clippings of restaurant ads that read like this: « Whether you say Po'k, Pork or Porrrk, you'll enjoy this good he-man dish that starts lips a-sinacking! — Grilled fresh pork chop, grilled to a crispy brown outside —

juicy and tender within — made with Sauce Diable and flanked with a generous serving of... We'd better stop right now, before somebody else gets sore... But that « crispy brown outside » is reminiscent of an old crack about the Nazis. If you don't know it, ask your Cabo...

A glimpse of what life in fascist-hed Spain is like is contained in the following extracts from an account of one who has lived in Galicia, in the Province of Pontevedra, on the eastern coast of Spain, just north of Portugal: « The war atmosphere is noticeable by the martial noise made by the phalangists and « civil guard gentlemen ». The soldiers are carefully kept separated from the civilian population. Besides, it is difficult to make out which are the Spanish soldiers and which are the foreigners. At the beginning the phalangists deliberately wore the uniform of the regular Spanish soldier, whereas the soldiers went around in mufti or were given Portuguese uniforms. One was not permitted to say that they were Portuguese uniforms, nor were the people allowed to go near the soldiers to determine whether they were Spanish or Portuguese.

« The German soldiers generally wore civilian clothes, but Spanish artillerymen wore uniforms made of the brown German cloth. The Germans were intended to pass unnoticed. It was a crime to pronounce a German name, so much so that they were never referred to as « Germans » but « individuals ». When the papers published anything about the Germans or when they officially referred to them, they merely said « Three individuals arrived » or « The individuals who are staying at the Hotel X... » This was enough. Everyone understood it.

« The docks of Vigo were last summer exclusively controlled by « the individuals ». They were in charge of unloading all the war material which came from Hamburg, and knocked-down planes which came escorted by their personnel. The trains came right up to the pier to load, and then the war material was transported to the bases of the « Nationalist » army. The Germans were at all times extremely discreet about their movements, and they tried to hide themselves from the Spanish people like real criminals. Italians were (and are) in — Galicia too. But we'll save the account of their antics for the next issue.



THE ESTIMATE OF THE SITUATION

In every-day life, in almost every action of the individual and collective body, certain definite questions arise in a definite sequence. These questions have to be answered, even if not consciously, and they are what, why, where, how and when. Just as in every other phase of life, so in military operations, large and small, these same questions must be answered before a decision can be reached on which to base any military plan of operation. The answering of these questions, in other words the analysis that is required, is called the estimate of the situation. It is made, not only by commanders of large units who have to actually write their analyses down to entirely assimilate them, but they are also made by subordinate commanders and even individual soldiers.

PLAN BASIS OF ACTION

The content of the estimate of the situation falls into a certain formula. The reason for sticking to this standard is to habituate soldiers to thinking in definite terms in order that in moments of crisis they may be habituated to carry this out without loss of momentum.

The form generally required in all armies is:

First paragraph—*The Mission*—In other words the answer to "what am I to do, what is my general task"? Second paragraph is an analysis of the—*Opposing Forces*—and is subdivided into (a) the forces of the enemy, their number, their material condition and equipment, their physical condition, their morale, their reserves, their position on the terrain and so forth. The second paragraph (a) is a similar analysis of our own forces. The next main paragraph is the enemy's situation and intentions. We know his strength, approximately, and his general condition. We ought to know the general lay of the land and then we analyse in detail, if possible, plans. They may be either to attack or defend in some special manner. By elimination we choose the most probable of these plans and consider them seriously. The next paragraph is our possible plans, based upon our analysis of the plans open to the enemy. We consider what possible plans we can use and in some detail we analyse these possibilities. We weigh, seriously, for instance, the possibility of attacking and defending in some special position. We discuss the problems in each case, their advisability or inadvisability, and advantages and disadvantages, their

Last of a Series of Five Articles Dealing with Military Questions, by the Commander of the Battalion of Instruction N.º 15

MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON

strength and their weakness, and once again by elimination we choose the most probable plan that we can use. This plan is then finally written out into the fifth paragraph of the estimate of the situation as our decision. It is upon this decision that the field order is based.

Although all this work may appear simple and sometimes unnecessary

it is a good experience for subordinate commanders to practise making estimates of the situation at all times, in order to familiarise themselves with the many possibilities that are open to them. Especially under modern conditions of warfare where a great deal of latitude and initiative lies within the realm of the subordinate command-

der. The knowledge of how to make a correct analysis or estimate of the situation is also the foundation for issuing correct field orders, oral or written, during an action, and since so much depends upon the brevity, conciseness and clarity of these field orders, it is quite obvious that before they can be either clear, concise or brief, their essence must be thoroughly understood. No commander can issue such an order and carry it out with determination unless he knows exactly what the situation is and how he is going to carry into effect the decisions he does reach and knows exactly how, when and where these must be done.

GEORGE FLETCHER of the British Battalion



knows what it means. In his opinion the formalities of discipline, far from complicating a soldier's life, make it easier. Even in an Imperialist army he found that out, though discipline there is not used solely for the purpose of raising the soldier's level of efficiency. Where he traces the main difference is in the importance that the Republican Army attaches to the development of intelligence in the private soldier, on the assumption that the more a man knows the better he fights. An Imperialist army is compelled by its own conditions to discourage the rank and file from knowing too much about what is going on, in case it occurred to them that they were being used in someone else's interest.

The distinction creates a new atmosphere in which a man can get to grips with his job. Discipline clears the air and makes everything easier to follow. For the individual it becomes a matter of practical soldiering, equivalent to keeping his rifle clean or his feet in trim. For the Army as a whole it is a measure that makes the machine more compact, cuts out delay and increases the force of its striking power.

The deft fingers of Lt. Fletcher are put to many uses. During his training days he constituted fifty per cent of the Company Band, for which he provided percussion with a pair of spoons. He can always be relied on for a good number at a social evening. The only success he lays claim to is that he brought tears to the Meade's eyes with his acrobatic song-hit. He thinks this must be the reason why he received his award.

M. T.

EXPERIENCE USEFUL

After the war, Fletcher remained in the service, and spent some years in India. By 1936 he was contemplating a return to civilian life and had certain speculative ideas about marriage. He was out of soldiering for six months, but the appearance of armed fascism in Spain changed his plans again. He arrived in this country in May of last year. His

experience with fire-arms of all sorts was an asset at the training camp, where he soon picked up the special features of the weapons which the Republican Army was using, and began to instruct those with less experience than himself. When the sections competed in dismantling and reassembling, their arms, Fletcher could beat anybody. He has deft fingers and an accurate eye. In training, and since, he has proved himself a first-class rifle shot.

He first saw active service in Spain at Brunete, where he was wounded in the shoulder. When his wound was finally healed, he was offered a position at the new training camp, but preferred to rejoin the Battalion. He went into action again at Fuentes de Ebro.

ON DISCIPLINE

Lt. Fletcher has watched the growth of discipline and organisation in the Republican Army with the satisfaction of an old hand. He

LETTERS FROM HOME

Stay as Long as You
Can, Advises Veteran

Dear T....

Your letter arrived, as usual, more than a month after you had written it. Received The Volunteer for Liberty and the other material long before — the song books and other little booklets, and then the French book of the 15th Brigade. Could you tell me if they are going to print that book in English? I showed it to a number of people and all of them said they would like to buy it if it were in English. Most of the material you have sent I've given to the Friends of the Brigade; the rest I use myself, showing things to different people. The song books I am going to lend to different choruses around here.

The Philadelphia Friends of the Lincoln Brigade are now at 1011 Chestnut St., Room 818. They have also been receiving Volunteers and posters. Dan Elkins, secretary of the F.L.B., asks that you send him as many cards, posters and other material as possible. They could be sold or used as prizes to popularize their work.

The boys who have returned are Walcott, Hy Rosner, Harry Wallach, Jacobs, Rochester, Chmelofsky, Melnicoff, Harold London from the Washington Battalion, and Brenner, who was an aviator. We have already established a chapter of the Veterans; it is called the Wickman-Barrelli Chapter...

You mention in your letter that you often wonder whether it is possible to readjust oneself completely after having been to war. Well, it is difficult. When one is at war there are a number of things that happen; and one gets

used to them. Then you come to a peaceful country, and you have different kinds of worries. When you go to meetings there's a lot of talk but little action. They do not understand the meaning of discipline, as men do who have



been at war. Another thing is that things go too slow... I wish it was possible for me to return to be in Spain still. In Spain we were able to be always with men who were men, men who spoke as friends and did not have — could not have — anything to hide...

Well, Pat, Dan and the boys send their best regards. The boys say that whatever you do, stay there in Spain as long as you can...

Salud!

BILL FRATT

...

British Labor M. P.,
Ted Williams, Hears
From Miners Federation

Dear Ted:

During the visit you and your colleagues are making to Spain, kindly convey to the heroic people of that country the deepfelt gratitude of the British miners in their fight for the cause of economic freedom.

To the miners of Asturias, those giant gladiators of immeasurable gallantry, give a real British miners' appreciation for their glorious work.

Wherever you go, whoever you meet among the fighters and workers for Spanish liberty as against tyranny, thank them in our name. Their good cause must spread throughout the length and breadth of the world.

Yours fraternally,
Eddy Edwards, Sec'y.
Miners, Federation
Gerfota Britain

NUEVOS RECLUTAS

«Ayudar, organizar y capacitar a la juventud». Palabras dichas por el Secretario general de la J. S. U. Palabras, que necesitamos aplicar inmediatamente. Pronto llegaran a las Unidades jóvenes reclutas. Sangre joven y dispuesta a luchar. Pero todavía con poca experiencia. Desde el momento en que el recluta llegue a la Unidad empieza nuestra tarea. Hay que ayudarles desde todos los puntos de vista. Si no saben como hay que aprovechar el terreno, hay que enseñárselo concienzudamente,

explicarle como se debe proteger de los ataques de los aviones, como se construyen refugios. Cada soldado veterano debe hacer todo lo posible para que lo que él ya sabe, lo sepa también el nuevo recluta. El recluta debe aprender a escribir a leer. Para ello, cada veterano le debe prestar su máxima ayuda. En los ratos de tranquilidad debe dejar por unos momentos el fusil a un lado, y empuñar las otras armas que son el papel y la pluma. Se deberán organizar escuelas de Transmisiones, Sanidad, etc. para los nuevos reclutas, donde este pueda llegar dentro del menor espacio de tiempo a poder llevar a por la capacitación obtenida, galones ganados merecidamente. Se les deberá dar charlas, explicándoles por que deben luchar a muerte hasta el aplastamiento final del fascismo. Si son labradores, se les deberá dar charlas de lo que la República del Frente Popular ha dado a los campesinos y a los trabajadores de la tierra. Si son obreros, se les explicará el cambio operado en las ciudades, en el que ya no existe un solo parador! Todos en pie a recibir a los nuevos reclutas, y a capacitarlos para que lleguen a ser una de las armas más poderosas para aplastar a la invasión fascista!

F. N.



21 BOMBARDMENTS FAIL TO DAUNT VALENCIANS

«Children first» is the motto of the Junta Passive Defense of Valencia, which has just published data concerning its work in the first seven months of its existence. The Junta, its work hastened because of the 21 bombardments which Valencia has undergone, has begun the construction of eight bomb-proof shelters adjoining schools, and it has carried out works to protect four clinics. In one of these a tunnel had to be

built to communicate with a bomb-proof shelter in which a special operating theatre can be set up.

The Junta has also built an emergency hospital with two operating theatres and twelve beds. It has built three bomb-proof shelters inside the city and two in the outskirts. It looks after the upkeep of the shelters previously constructed and the installation of powerful air-raid warning sirens.



Las tres condiciones esenciales para vencer

VALOR DISCIPLINA FE en la VICTORIA



¡NO PASARÁN!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - SPECIAL No. 9

Barcelona, March 17 - 1938

¡NO CEDER UN SOLO PALMO DE TERRENO

DO NOT YIELD AN INCH
OF
GROUND
TO
THE ENEMY!

Defend every
conquered posi-
tion; hold our li-
nes firmly; FOR-
TIFY, FORTIFY,
FORTIFY, THIS IS
THE DUTY OF
EVERY SOLDIER

Brigadas Internacio-
les, congregación gene-
rosa y espontánea de
hombres de las Cinco
partes del Mundo, que
pedían una plaza para
morir por la libertad.

DR. JUAN NEGRIN

GUADALAJARA

HACE UN AÑO A YEAR AGO

En Guadalajara el
enemigo poseía instru-
mentos de combate nu-
merosos, mejores y ma-
yores que los nuestros
entonces. Sin embargo,
fué primero contenido
y después aplastado.

El factor decisivo de
aquel gran episodio,
como tiene que serlo
junto a nuestros mejo-
res elementos de com-
bate en la lucha de
mañana fué la MORAL
INQUEBRANTABLE DE
NUESTROS SOLDADOS
la firmeza, la decisión
y el coraje de nuestros
MANDOS Y COMISA-
RIOS POLITICOS.

In Guadalajara the
enemy possessed more
numerous and better
weapons than ours
then. However, first the
enemy was held back,
then beaten.

The decisive factor of
that great episode, was
the brilliant morale of
our troops, the strength,
the courage of our com-
manders and Political
Commissars. With this
same morale we can
smash through the
Fascist Offensive and
hold high the Banner
of the Republic

AL
ENEMIGO!

Defender bien
cada posición
conquistada,
mantener fuertes
nuestras líneas.

FORTIFICAR,
FORTIFICAR,
FORTIFICAR,
es el gran deber
del soldado, man-
dos y comisarios.

Ayuda a los Comisa-
rios para que no exis-
ta un solo combatiente
que ignore para que
lucha y que es lo que
va a ganar con la vic-
toria.

¡FIRMES EN EL FRENTE!

grita la U. G. T. a los Oficiales y soldados de la XV Brigada



A TODOS LOS CAMARADAS SOLDADOS Y OFICIALES DE LA XV BRIGADA

¡ Celebremos hoy una victoria de unidad, conseguida por las masas de la U. G. T. y de la C. N. T., que han sellado su pacto de UNIDAD DE ACCION!

¡ Que este firme paso para preparar las condiciones de la victoria, que afianza la unidad de toda la España antifascista, sirva para impulsar la bravura de nuestras armas y tensar los pulsos de nuestros soldados!

¡ NO QUEREMOS SER VASALLOS DE MUSSOLINI! ¡ NO SEREMOS NUNCA UN PAIS FASCISTA!

UNA SOLA CONSIGNA: Para los soldados, resistir; para la retaguardia, trabajar. Y por encima de todo, fe; absoluta fe en

el destino victorioso de la REPUBLICA.

¡ NUESTRA ESPAÑA NO SERA DE LOS INVASORES!

Defendemos nuestra tierra, nuestras casas, nuestras vidas y nuestro porvenir.

¡ No podemos retroceder un solo paso!

¡ Unidos, inquebrantablemente unidos en la resistencia!

¡ Firmes en las trincheras! ¡ Nosotros estamos firmes en las fábricas!

¡ Atrás, los enemigos del pueblo!

¡ ESPAÑA NO SERA DE MUSSOLINI!

¡ ESPAÑA PERTENECE AL PUEBLO ESPAÑOL!

¡ RESISTID, FORTIFICAD, Y NUNCA PASARAN!

FEDERACIÓN LOCAL DE SINDICATOS DE BARCELONA, U. G. T.

“BE FIRM AT THE FRONT!” SAYS UGT TO OFFICERS AND MEN OF 15th BRIGADE “WHILE WE SPEED UP WAR PRODUCTION”

TO THE COMRADE SOLDIERS AND OFFICERS OF THE 15th BRIGADE

A great victory in the rearguard has been sealed -- a pact of UNITY between the U. G. T. and the C. N. T.

This tremendous victory means the doubling of all our efforts to help win the war.

It means we shall be able to send you more and better war material to defend yourselves against the bestial fascist murderers.

In this critical moment there must be one slogan:

For you: RESIST, RESIST at all costs.

For the rearguard:

WORK HARDER THAN EVER.

OUR SPAIN SHALL NOT BE THAT OF THE INVADERS!

We are defending our land, our homes, our lives and our future!

We cannot and must not retreat a step!

UNITE, unite in the resistance!

BE FIRM AT THE FRONT WHILE WE WORK AS FIRMLY IN THE WAR FACTORIES!

SMASH THE ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE!

SPAIN SHALL NEVER BE MUSSOLINI'S.

SPAIN BELONGS TO



Above All you must keep FAITH, absolute faith in the victorious destiny of the REPUBLIC.

Comrades: Now is the time when unity and courage and hard work are needed more than ever before. Every drop of blood shed by our comrades on the fields of Spain is blood spilled in the protection of our own lands -- blood spilled in the war to exterminate German Nazism and Italian Fascism.

Comrades: whatever our nationality, whether we be American or British or Spanish -- let us fight shoulder to shoulder together in this critical time as we have worked side by side in past battles! Let us resist with strength, and turn the fascist offensive into a crushing defeat and rout, as our comrades did at Guadalajara a year ago!



THE LOYAL SPANISH PEOPLE.

RESIST! FORTIFY!

And THEY SHALL NOT PASS!

Federación Local de Sindicatos de Barcelona, U. G. T.

RESISTIR ES VENCER



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - SPECIAL No. 10

Barcelona, March 21 - 1938

¡ATRÁS LOS INVASORES DE ESPAÑA!

DRIVE OUT THE INVADERS OF SPAIN!

Make Aragon a second Guadalajara for the Italians!

Reinforcements of arms and men are on their way.

These new weapons, with your courage and heroism, can be used to halt and destroy the enemy.

All of Spain is with you.

The whole nation is mobilizing in a feverish war tempo against the fascists.

Fling your whole strength against the invaders!

**TO DEFEND SPAIN'S
FREEDOM IS TO DEFEND
YOUR OWN HOMELAND!**



Una sola preocupación política en todo el país y en todos los antifascistas:

¡Unidad contra el enemigo común!

Ediciones del Comisariado de las Brigadas Internacionales

“Cada metro de tierra española tiene ahora un valor de kilómetros para nuestro destino y el de la humanidad civilizada.”

(Del discurso del Ministro de Instrucción Pública, camarada Jesús Hernández.)

¡Aragón será para los Italianos un segundo Guadalajara!

¡Soldados! ¡Combatientes todos! Nuevos hermanos vuestros. Nuevos medios de lucha van a ayudaros, y con ellos y con vuestro heroísmo y vuestro patriotismo hay que aplastar a los extranjeros que asaltan la patria. Todo el pueblo está a vuestro lado. Toda la patria se moviliza en un mismo latido de guerra contra los invasores.

DESCARGAD COMO HURACÁN INCONTENIBLE TODA LA FUERZA DE VUESTRO DESPRECIO, DE VUESTRO ODIO SAGRADO CONTRA LAS HORDAS SEDIENTAS DE VUESTRA LIBERTAD.



TO FORTIFY IS TO CONQUER!

NOW IS THE TIME TO STRIKE BACK!

It is twenty months, almost to a day since the traitor generals, the Benedict Arnolds of Spain, began their rebellion of blood against the Spanish people. Twenty months since the combined forces of German and Italian fascism have despoiled the land.

It has also been twenty months of stiff resistance—twenty months during which the enemy has been stopped at all vital points, as in Madrid, as in Guadalajara, and the Jarama valley.

Today the people of Spain work harder than ever before to turn out the materials of war—materials which we, the soldiers of the Republic, can transform into materials of victory.

War supplies flow steadily toward the front. Some

have already arrived. Other large shipments are on the way.

This flow will not be interrupted a moment!

Artillery, planes, ammunition—these are now turned out, and will continue to be turned out, in abundance. Sufficient to turn every attack into a counter-attack

that will win back for Loyal Spain the land which rightfully belongs to the people with whom we fight shoulder to shoulder.

These materials, added to our will to conquer, will go a long way toward victory.

The workers of the rear pledge that the flow of war materials to the front shall not cease.

They — and all Spain—await our answer.



Tendréis soldados del pueblo, todo el armamento que necesitéis para alcanzar, con vuestro valor y vuestra pericia, Victorias decisivas en la lucha por la libertad de España.

Dr. NEGRIN, Presidente del Consejo de Ministros

¡RESISTID Y FORTIFICAD!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - SPECIAL No. 11

Barcelona, March 25 - 1938

LUCHAR HASTA LA VICTORIA



El enemigo emplea una nueva táctica. Contra nuestros hombres, máquinas. Pero en la guerra el factor fundamental es el hombre. El hombre dotado de la convicción heroica de que está empeñado en la más grande lucha por su libertad. Porque cada joven que llega a nuestro Ejército, cada antifascista que se encuadra en él, cada español simplemente llamado al cumplimiento de su deber militar saben que están luchando porque la Patria no sucumba bajo un poder extranjero, porque nuestras minas, nuestros campos, nuestras mujeres, nuestra dignidad no sean botín de un invasor.

(Del discurso del Ministro de Instrucción Pública, camarada Jesús Hernández.)



¡Soldados!

Cuidad y conservad las armas como el tesoro más preciado que el pueblo español ha puesto en vuestras manos.

Cada fusil, cada máquina, ha costado a nuestra patria dificultades y sacrificios inmensos obtenerlo.

No abandonéis jamás tu fusil. El es tu mejor compañero. Tu mejor instrumento de defensa.

Por cada fusil que se abandona o se estropea se presta un valioso servicio a tus peores enemigos: a los traidores como Franco y los señores, y a los mercenarios de Hitler y Mussolini que invaden nuestro país.



¡Camarada soldado!

El deber sublime de todo luchador antifascista en estas horas es resistir al enemigo. Resistir frente a todos los obstáculos y dificultades.

La resistencia ardiente del pueblo en otras etapas difíciles permitió convertir las ofensivas fascistas en victorias republicanas.

Ni las balas, ni los obuses, ni las bombas de la aviación fascista pueden impedir que nuestros combatientes se peguen a la tierra y no la abandonen. El terreno no lo ocupan los cañones ni los aviones; lo ocupan los hombres, lo ocupa la infantería. Y cada soldado del Ejército Popular vale diez veces más que los soldados obligados a luchar por Franco y los mercenarios traidores de Italia, Alemania y Marruecos.

¡Camarada comisario!
La consigna de todo nuestro pueblo es: ¡Resistir al enemigo!

La defensa del terreno hasta el heroísmo más heroico la han hecho nuestros soldados en docenas de batallas durísimas.

Bastó que nuestros soldados comprendiesen bien la necesidad imperiosa de cerrar el paso al enemigo para que cada combatiente popular se transformase en una muralla que no podían franquear los ejércitos invasores.

El trabajo político de nuestros comisarios, la fortaleza moral y la resolución de heroísmo y sacrificio que transmitían a cada soldado, el ejemplo personal de cientos de comisarios en momentos decisivos hizo de cada soldado un ejemplo brillante de disciplina y arrojo.

Como en otras tantas batallas, en Madrid, en Guadalajara, en el Jarama, en Pozoblanco, en Teruel, hoy en Aragón, los comisarios tienen que ser los hombres decisivos de las situaciones difíciles.

¡Comisarios! El epílogo de la batalla de Aragón tiene que ser, por vuestro trabajo, el mismo del 18 de marzo en Guadalajara.

SPAIN WILL NEVER YIELD TO FASCISM

« Our people has always known how to defend itself, our whole history, the history of the people's liberties in our country is a lesson in heroism. Our people never tolerated the yoke of foreign rule, was never willing to be a subject nation. With a sublime heroism the people of Numancia buried themselves in the ruins of their city. With epic bravery our grandfathers defended Spanish soil against the Napoleonic eagles. And it is from this home of heroes, this brood of Titans, this virile, undying blood that our people spring. Yesterday, armed with shot guns sticks, knives and shears, this people defeated the invasion. Today, with that spirit which glows through the whole history of Spain it will never tolerate any foreign rule. The whole spirit of the present war blends with our people's past, with its determination to be independent, to be free.

These are the spiritual virtues of our innermost Spanish being. This is the spirit which must be aroused to the highest pitch and in that spirit our Army and our people must be trained. — The unconquerable spirit of resistance. To cling to the ground, to protect it with a body that prefers death to slavery, to guard it with our unyielding resolve not to let them pass. Every yard of Spanish soil today has the worth of miles for our destiny and for the destiny of all civilised mankind. To resist is to conquer. Firm in the defence, firm on Spanish land! From our victorious resistance will spring the impulse for our overwhelming offensive.»

JESUS HERNANDEZ

Minister of Public Instruction

ONE VICTORY THEY CANNOT WIN!

The city of Barcelona suffered, during the days of March 16, 17, and 18, the heaviest and most concentrated aerial bombardment that any city has received in the history of the war. Despite this, the people have not wavered.



Instead of buckling to the brutality of fascism, the people are uniting more closely than ever. The C. N. T. and the U. G. T., Spain's giant trade union organizations, have completed a Unity Pact that will bring the workers of all fields into one powerful front against the invaders. The war factories hum busily. Industry is reaching a vigorous war tempo. Catalonia will not give in to fascism.

A year ago, Madrid inflicted heavy blows on the fascists at Jarama and Guadalajara. The 15th Brigade played a leading role in stopping the fascists at Jarama. Madrid was NOT taken.

Now the 15th Brigade can once again play a leading and historic role in the Spanish war by again stopping the fascists dead in their tracks. We can duplicate the Guadalajara triumph of a year ago.

The enemy may have advanced and won ground, but one victory they shall not win — and that is THE FINAL VICTORY.

That last victory can be, AND WILL BE, OURS.



¡FIRMES EN LA RESISTENCIA!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - SPECIAL No. 12

Barcelona, March 28 - 1938

CADA PICO FORTIFICANDO CONTRA LOS ENEMIGOS DEL PUEBLO

Se han dado muchas órdenes, de que inmediatamente después de la entrada en una posición se deben construir fortificaciones. Pero muchos de nuestros camaradas no piensan en crearse, siendo esto lo primero de todo, una verdadera defensa, con la cual está asegurado contra artillería y aviación. Los últimos combates en Teruel nos han demostrado, que cada soldado que no se ha fortificado bien, está perdido en el terreno.

¿Qué es lo que debe tener siempre consigo un soldado de Infantería? Un fusil para disparar y una pala, con la cual se pueda fortificar en todo momento. Pero a pesar de esto, estas necesidades elementales no nos han entrado en la cabeza como nos debían haber entrado.

¿Cómo son en su mayor parte una de nuestras posiciones? Tomemos como ejemplo un hoyo de tirador. Un agujero grande, no muy hondo, pero ancho, de forma que pueda contener uno o dos hombres. Además, las piedras sacadas del agujero son colocadas en la dirección del tiro delante del agujero de tirador. Por la anchura del hoyo, cada aviador está en condiciones de poder tocar al tirador que se encuentra en el hoyo. Las piedras colocadas delante del agujero, pueden convertirse muy fácilmente en metralla en el momento en que una bala hace blanco en ellas y hieren al combatiente que se encuentra detrás.

¿Cómo se debe construir un hoyo de tirador? En una profundidad de 1'10 m. y en una anchura de 70 a 80 cm.; esto es completamente suficiente y tiene todas las exigencias de una buena protección, que necesita el tirador. La tierra sacada se debe colocar en la dirección de tiro, y proporciona una buena cazadora de balas contra los tiros de Infantería, sin que el combatiente que se encuentra detrás sea herido. Las piedras sacadas se tiran a algunos metros de distancia detrás del hoyo de tirador. Se debe poner una especial atención en el «camuflaje». La tierra fresca acabada de sacar se tiene que ajustar al terreno y no se tiene que diferenciar por nada de los alrededores. Este trabajo se puede realizar en una noche y a la mañana siguiente el soldado tiene una protección suficiente contra el fuego de Infantería enemigo y contra el fuego de las ametralladoras de los aviones.



No es hora más que de tener un solo pensamiento y una sola voluntad, aplastar al enemigo. Aplastarle, luchando en el frente, trabajando más en la retaguardia, persiguiéndole y desenmascarándole cuando se oculta entre nosotros.

Dr. NEGRIN, Presidente del Consejo de Ministros.

Ediciones del Comisariado de las Brigadas Internacionales

EL FASCISMO SE ESTRELLARÁ EN ESPAÑA

Excmo. Sr. Presidente del Consejo de Ministros.

Los soldados, Clases y Comisarios del 55 Batallón de la 14 Brigada Mixta, piden a V. E. emplee mano dura contra los enemigos del pueblo que pretenden esclavizarnos con su régimen tiránico.

Los combatientes de este Batallón estamos dispuestos a derramar toda nuestra sangre hasta aplastarlos definitivamente, porque de esto depende el bienestar de todos los trabajadores, haciendo al mismo tiempo vieja y firme nuestra consigna de ¡No pasarán y pasaremos!

Nos oponemos terminantemente a pacto de ninguna clase con los as-sinos de nuestros hermanos de clase, por tener plena seguridad en nuestro fuerte Gobierno del Frente Popular.

Queremos que en nuestra retaguardia cunda nuestro ejemplo, intensificando su trabajo en la producción de material de guerra, y de esta forma, trabajando conjuntamente retaguardia y vanguardia, el fascismo se estrellará en España.

Felicitamos a nuestro Gobierno por su correcta actuación.

¡Viva nuestro glorioso Ejército y el Frente Popular!

Siguen 50 firmas

NEWS BRIEFS OF THE WEEK

NEW YORK. — The hostility of the American people against the Neutrality act is growing daily. This Act, passed in May, 1937, was designed to prevent war shipments from being sent from the United States to loyal Spain. The «New York Times» in a sensational editorial calls for the repeal of the Neutrality Act.

A Spanish paper reports that even the arch-conservative «Herald Tribune» attacks the fascists and predicts that the democracies will align themselves with Russia against the militarists.

THE SOVIET TRIAL

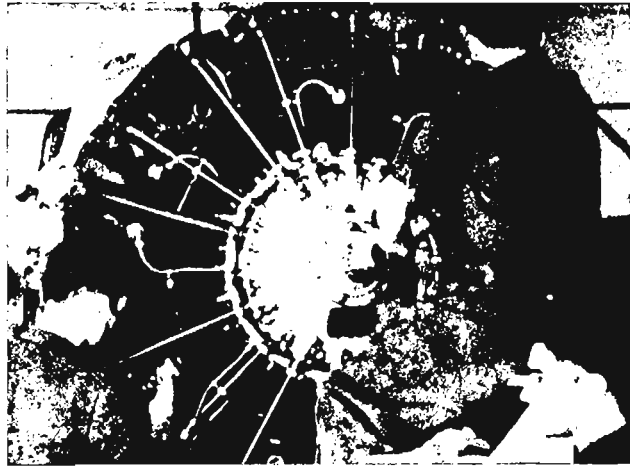
On March 2nd the trial began before the Military Collegion of the Supreme Court of the U. S. S. R. of the members of the criminal conspiracy group of the «bloc of Rights and Trotskyists».

Among the accused are five whose names are generally known throughout the country. They are Bukharin, Rykov, Yagoda, Krestinsky and Rakovsky.

In the dock stands the former leader of the «Left Communists», Rykov, who later, in company with Bukharin, Tomsky and others, became the organising traitor of the right-wing restorers of capitalism. In with him are the bourgeois Nationalists: Ikramov, Eaisula, Khoadjayev and others; the ex-Mensheviks like Chernov and former Social Revolutionaries like Grinko; past and present provocateurs of the Czarist Okhrana, like Zelensky and Ivanov, and people who used their diplomas as doctors and professors to poison some of the best men of the proletarian Revolution: Kubyshev, Menshinsky and Gorky.

NEW YORK. — In Times Square recently, 5000 young people burned an effigy of Hitler. The demonstration paralyzed traffic for half an hour.

LONDON. — An editorial in the «Daily Herald», organ of the Labour Party approves of the idea of a conference for peace as proposed by the Soviet Government. This editorial is particularly significant when it is remembered that this paper has always been



WAR FACTORY IN OUR REAR

READY TO DEFEND SPAIN'S LIBERTY AND FUTURE

Once again the enemies of the Spanish people have been conducting strong military operations against the independence of Spain. With foreign troops and imported war material, the servants of international fascism are attempting to subject new territories to a régime of slavery and degradation.

In twenty months of struggle we have faced many enemy offensives. A thousand times the traitors have announced that Spain would be totally subdued. A thousand times, too, the people and its Army have demonstrated that a nation continues to be free when it is ready to defend its liberty and its future with weapons, and sacrifice the life of its sons for the banner of independence.

At all times the Republican fighters have known how to surpass the odds of war material against them with a strong morale and powerful conviction which neither Franco's soldiers nor those of Mussolini have ever, or can ever, have. Our rifles and our equipment, insufficient as it has been, have successfully opposed all the weapons sent to Spain by Italians and Germans in order to assassinate us.

The tenacity and the sacrifice of our soldiers will transform into gun-powder and into an unconquerable cry the banner and slogan of antifascist Spain: **THEY SHALL NOT PASS!**

hostile towards Soviet Russia. Among some of the passages in the editorial are:

«The Government of the U. S. S. R. proposes that the directing members of the League of Nations with the United States have a conference to discuss the international situation.

«The object would be to combine all forces to preserve peace. This is precisely the practical path waited for by many years by millions of Britishers, who would liked to have seen this initiated by their own Government. The initiative, instead, came from the U. S. S. R.

«It's immaterial where it came from. What is important is that it has come and it is indispensable to not let this opportunity pass by not backing it. All who believe in collective security as the only medium to avoid world disaster must support the Soviet Government's proposal enthusiastically.»

NEW YORK. «We believe», write 61 Bishops of 36 states of the North American Confederation, in a letter directed to the catholic Bishops, «that the war in Spain, begun as a military rebellion, has been transformed into a realization of part of a general program of conquest by the fascist nations. We know that the catholic church of the United States has shown favorable tendencies toward Franco. Regardless, we ask the church to intervene against fascist barbarism.»

The letter of the North Evangelic Church protests the savage bombardments of Barcelona and expresses the hope that the catholic Bishops will protest to Salamanca.

VIENNA. According to the latest news, more than 1000 suicides have been registered in Austria during the past week. The legitimate Austrian chief, Coronel Wolf, was reported to have committed suicide after he shot at some German officials. Wide scale arrests continue.

PARIS. The French Government together with the British Government has sent to the Spanish Rebels a note expressing horror of the un-called for bombardments of the city of Barcelona.

UNIDOS TODOS — RESISTIR SIEMPRE



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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DISCIPLINE: The Difference Between Troops and Rabble

¡BRAVO POR LOS QUINTOS!

por el teniente ayudante
de operaciones

GERMAN HERNANDEZ ANTON

There must be few members of the XV Brigade who have not seen some or another witnessed a large ceremonial parade and, whatever other feelings they may have had, admired the precision and accuracy of the troops in movement. Most have read at some time or another of incidents such as the siege of Verdun, or the forming of the British infantry square at Waterloo, and if such incidents be analysed it will be found that they were only rendered possible by a high standard of discipline.

Discipline has been held to be that which differentiates a body of troops from a rabble. Those among us who imagine that discipline is a measure solely created for their personal discomfort would do well to remember that no campaign has ever been successfully waged by an ill-disciplined army, but that on the contrary discipline is the keystone of military success. Many are also prone to forget although they willingly impose various actions of discipline upon themselves, they are among the first to resent discipline imposed on them by others, oblivious of the fact that such disciplinary measures are almost invariably in their own interests, and undoubtedly in the interests of the Army as a whole.

Those who feel subversive should consider the state of an army in the field lacking the means for cohesive action. Not only will it be impossible to achieve any measure of success but there will be an appalling loss of life as a result of this.

In the case of officers and N. C. O.'s it will be found that if they are genuinely interested in the welfare of those under their command, they will be respected, and by such respect discipline will be easily maintained. Commissars in particular are responsible for keeping up the disciplinary tone of their unit by their personal example both on and off parade. The nearer a unit is to actual combat, the more urgent the issue of discipline becomes.

Ill-disciplined troops in action have damaging effect on morale. At Waterloo, Wellington, though numerically inferior, had some thousands of troops marched from the scene of action to avoid the harmful effect their lack of discipline was having on the army as a whole. The professional fascist troops have a long disciplinary training behind them, and although their methods will never be ours, at the same time we are not going to let them take lead of us in this necessary military accomplishment.

The standard of discipline of an army can be measured by the esteem in which it is held by the civil population. Good relations between them depend directly upon this standard. This is to be the year of liberation for the Spanish people. Let Discipline be the motto of the Army that is to drive the fascist invader out of Spain.

Los que tenemos conocimiento claro de la lucha que se desarrolla en España, estábamos convencidos de que los reclutas; a pesar de no haberse incorporado voluntariamente a las filas de nuestro glorioso Ejército Popular, tampoco lo hicieron a la fuerza, ya que como forzados se puede sólo designar a los hijos de... esas castas que siempre esclavizaron a España y que lograron ponerse a salvo durante los primeros días no bien fueron eliminados por la justicia del pueblo. Por esto estábamos convencidos de que si no se habían incorporado antes era porque muchos estaban al frente de importantes cargos de retaguardia, y otros estaban ocupados en el no menos importante frente de la producción; pero que tan pronto como el Gobierno los llamara a filas no dudarian ni un momento en venir a cumplir con un fusil en la mano el mismo deber que cumplían antes al frente de una máquina, de un harado o de una oficina, con el espíritu que poseemos todos los españoles hijos de ese pueblo de España rica y fecunda, alegre y bello, y que durante siglos esas castas sublevadas tuvieron convertida en campo de concentración y sus ciudades en presidios, pero que cuando vieron que comenzaba a clarear el alba que anunciaba la justicia, la libertad y el progreso, no tuvieron inconvenientes ni escrúpulos en desencadenar esta horrible tragedia que ningún trabajador deseaba ni hubiera sido capaz de acarrear. Pero, aunque estábamos convencidos, aún nos faltaba algo, y eso es lo que nos faltó: la confirmación, ya que los reclutas del 24 han sabido hacer honor a la tradición del Batallón y de la Brigada demostrando a los veteranos que, aunque sin ninguna experiencia, saben dar el pecho; saben cruzar las espesas cortinas del fuego de artillería y aguantar valientemente a la aviación y hacer retroceder a las hordas salvajes que están mancillando nuestra España.

Estos bravos camaradas nos dieron un ejemplo en la primera actuación de la Brigada en esta última campaña, cumpliendo con su cometido sin miedo y entonando cantos guerreros, pues tanto soldados como oficiales y comisarios estuvieron todos a la altura de su deber — el que más pudo más hizo. Más, entre todos siempre hay quien resalta y destaca, y en la operación de ese día lo fueron entre otros muchos Juan Núñez, «El Conejo», quien después de haber matado a los que habían herido a un compañero, él solo, arrastrado por el entusiasmo y ardor antifascista, quiso salir en persecución de los cobardes, cuando estos huían. También cito con emoción el caso de Feliciano Mañá, que después de que le hubieron curado las heridas del brazo, fué preciso la intervención enérgica del capitán Brage para que no subiera a la trinchera como el tozadamente pretendía. Tampoco olvido al recluta Antonio Barrios, que según el capitán de su compañía y compañeros que le rodeaban, con gran serenidad y cierta puntería le contaron diez y seis fascistas que entre él y su fusil se «trincaron». Hay otro digno de mención — ese veterano, Jesús Pulpón, que con su máquina y en pleno cañoneo enemigo fué el terror de los legionarios. Un camillero se destacó cuando más intenso era el fuego de la artillería enemiga; él solo transportó el carro de una máquina con cuatro cintas. También hizo prodigios de bravura y destreza el cabo de un fusil ametralladora; y en fin, muchos más que de citarlos, la lista sería innumerable.

Hay que hacer honor al 24 Batallón a los voluntarios y reclutas, oficiales y comisarios que, fundidos en un solo bloque lucharon como luchan los españoles que defienden su patria y como trabajadores que no quieren ser esclavos. Y para terminar, permítidme que recuerde a los veteranos, y ofrezca a los reclutas — que por cierto al recibir el bautizo de fuego, ya han dejado de serlo — el verso del poeta del batallón que dice:

Terminada la operación
Queda el mando satisfecho
Habéis cumplido un deber
Se os reserva un derecho.



WHAT THE SOLDIER TAKES WITH THE

LA FEDERACION LOCAL DE BARCELONA DE LA U. G. T. ACUERDA APADRINAR LA 15ª BRIGADA INTERNACIONAL

«Estimados camaradas:

Nunca como en estos momentos se ha hecho evidente vuestra clarividencia de octubre del 36 al decidirlo, con emocionante gesto, luchar por la causa del pueblo es pañol; y cada hora que pase, con la tragedia a que día tras día se ve impelido el mundo por las audacias del fascismo, cada vez con mayor desearo, vendrá a dar a vuestra aportación a la defensa de nuestras libertades la categoría de gesto profético, frente los que hasta hace muy poco, en su ceguera o en su egoísmo, no han podido o no han querido ver qué era lo que se ventilaba en nuestra guerra.

Para vosotros fué, desde que tomasteis la decisión de abandonar vuestros hogares para acudir en ayuda de nuestro pueblo, un deber de pura solidaridad que os imponía vuestra conciencia de hombres libres. No quisiéramos que en días futuros vuestros países, los países democráticos, tuvieran que consagrarlos como a ejemplares patriotas que se anticiparon a defender su propia patria, ya amenazada desde el momento en que empezaron a llegar a España, invadiéndola, los mercenarios de Hitler y Mussolini.

Transcurrido cerca de año y medio desde que iniciasteis vuestras heroicas actuaciones en tierra hispana, ya formado el gran Ejército Popular Regular pasáis a ser, a medida que el volumen y la potencialidad de éste va en aumento, sobre todo un símbolo y un ejemplo, ya que numéricamente sois una parte valiosísima, pero pequeña, del Ejército Antifascista.

Y es por esto precisamente por lo que nosotros queremos rendiros homenaje de gratitud y admiración.

La guerra será aún muy dura, posiblemente larga, y es más necesario cada día establecer muy estrechos lazos entre el frente y la retaguardia, hasta conseguir que desde las líneas avanzadas hasta las costas mediterráneas todos nos sintamos combatientes, marchando y laborando al unísono con una sola finalidad; la guerra victoriosa.

He aquí por qué una de las decisiones más destacadas del III Congreso de la Unión General de Trabajadores de Cataluña fué la de que nuestros Sindicatos apadrinasen unidades del Ejército, la más eficaz y noble manera de ligar la vanguardia con la retaguardia.

Y aunando ambas razones, la Federación Local de Sindicatos de Barcelona de la U. G. T., que cuenta en su seno a muchos sindicatos que apadrinan unidades de combatientes, ha acordado que la que ella apadrinase como tal Federación fuese una Brigada Interna-

cional. De esta manera llenaba un doble cometido: estrechar los lazos de camaradería con los combatientes en general, ya que no olvidamos que en vuestra Brigada, como en todas las Internacionales hay un porcentaje importantísimo de soldados españoles, y hacer patente nuestra fraternidad con los heroicos y abnegados camaradas de todas las tendencias antifascistas que, abandonando sus pacíficos países y sus más entrañables afectos, supieron arriesgarlo todo por el supremo ideal de la Humanidad: la libertad de los hombres y de los pueblos.

He ahí, camaradas, las causas por las que la Federación Local de Barcelona de la U. G. T. ha decidido apadrinar vuestra Brigada, a cuyas razones se han añadido las del conocimiento que tenemos de vuestros numerosos y heroicos hechos de armas que tienen los nombres gloriosos de Jarama, Brunete, Belchite y otros, trozos de suelo español que regasteis con vuestra sangre al derrotar en ellos al fascismo.

Los Sindicatos de Barcelona, representados por esta Federación Local os ofrecen, con su padrínaje, su incondicional ayuda para resolver vuestras necesidades en relación con la retaguardia, su propósito entusiasta de procuraros en la medida de lo posible aquellas cosas a las que no llega la compleja de organización oficial, por ser requeridos sus esfuerzos y su atención por otras más apremiantes y tal vez más necesarias, su cordial disposición para atenderos en cualquier problema que necesite resolver en los días de descanso cualquiera de vosotros, aun en los de índole particular, proporcionaros medios de relacionaros con elementos de retaguardia que ofrezcan segura garantía de antifascismo y, en suma, nuestra Casa social, en

BARCELONA U. G. T. OFFERS PATRONAGE TO XV BRIGADE



A decision to assume patronage of the 15th Brigade in order to cement the front and the rear was expressed in a letter to the Brigade by the Local Federation of the Barcelona U. G. T. This letter was published in the March 10th issue of *Las Noticias*, organ of the U. G. T. of Catalonia.

Part of the letter reads:

«The war will still be a hard and possibly a long one. It is necessary to establish a very strong link between the front and the rearguard, a link which will extend from the most advanced front line posts to the coast of the Mediterranean, all fighters, marching and working in unison with one final goal in view; a victorious war.»

The letter explains that the Local Federation of the U. G. T. has decided to adopt the Brigade because:

«...we know your numerous heroic deeds that bear the names of the glorious Jarama, Brunete, Belchite and others, plots of Spanish soil on which you have shed your blood to help destroy fascism.»

«The Unions of Barcelona, represented by this Local Federation offers, with its patronage, their unconditional wish to assist in resolving your necessities in relation to the rearguard and has an enthusiastic aim to procure measures to aid in securing those things you need, to which often you cannot give your time because of your pressing activities. We extend ourselves to you in your days of rest and offer to acquaint you with elements of the rearguard of good antifascist character. In addition we throw open our Social House where you will find a fraternal spirit and where you will be attended to with generosity and are free to come and feel assured in finding us always ready to collaborate with you.»

«The Local Federation of the U. G. T. of Barcelona wishes to begin an effective work and is happy to announce a proposed visit to your general barracks in the near future.»

«We send you our most cordial antifascist salutations from the Unions of the Barcelona U. G. T.»

«For the Local Federation of the Barcelona U. G. T.»

T. Salvado

Secretary of Propaganda

la que desde ahora tenéis que ver el hogar del camarada fraternal donde siempre se os atenderá con cariño y a donde siempre podéis acudir en la seguridad de encontrarnos dispuestos a prestaros nuestra colaboración.

La Federación Local de la U. G. T. de Barcelona quiere hoy mismo, al ofreceros su padrínaje, empezar una labor efectiva y se complace en anunciaros una próxima visita a vuestro cuartel general, en la que se dé comienzo a esa ayuda a la 15 Brigada Internacional.

Recibid los más cordiales saludos antifascistas de los Sindicatos de Barcelona de la U. G. T.

Por la Federación Local de Barcelona de la U. G. T.,

T. Salvado

Secretario de Propaganda

WANTING TO KNOW

«Remember that time we were assaulting up the terraces?» the volunteer said. «Remember how we dashed up under the terrace wall, and stuck to it as if we were nailed on?»

«Right beside me was young Sam. He hollered out. I said, 'What's the matter?' He said, something hit him, and wanted to know if he was wounded.»

«I said, he should know better than me, but he said he couldn't run around himself and have a look, in fact under the circumstances he couldn't even turn round safely. Maybe I could see blood somewhere.»

«Well, I didn't see any blood and I said so.»

«'Guess it was a stone or something', he said, and looked pretty relieved. He settled down to the job again, and so did I, and I dare say the matter was passing out of his mind the same as mine, when suddenly he hollered again. 'I am wounded' he said. 'Look here — Look at this!'

«He held out his hand, and there was blood on it all right. It came from his shoulder. A bullet had gone right through.»

«So that's how young Sam got to Benicasin.»

LO QUE EL SOLDADO CONQUISTA CON LA BAYO

BAYONET, HE HOLDS WITH THE SPADE

VARIAS PERSONALIDADES INGLESAS ATESTIGUAN QUE EL EX - GENERAL QUEIPO DE LLANO INSULTÓ EN LA LÍNEA, A INGLATERRA

Gibraltar. — Más de cien personalidades inglesas residentes en esta plaza asistieron el domingo último, en La Línea, al acto en el curso del cual el ex general Queipo de Llano pronunció una serie ininterrumpida de sandeces insultando a Inglaterra.

Según han manifestado los testigos, entre los asistentes a aquel acto figuraban un miembro del Consejo Ejecutivo y varios individuos pertenecientes a la «Justicia de Paz». Todos los ingleses que se encontraban presentes cuando Queipo de Llano pronunció las palabras insultando a Inglaterra abandonaron el local, regresando rápidamente a Gibraltar.

¡Cuatro nombres de plata!

Cuatro Nombres gloriosos tiene la XV Brigada, cuatro Batallones de hierro salieron de sus entrañas.

Al año de nacer tus cuatro hijos del alma, pusieron en alto nivel el nombre que tu alborozada les pusiste al nacer: Mackenssi-Pappino

Inglés, Lincoln y Veinticuatro.

Estos son los cuatro nombres que salieron de la Nada. Para convertirse en Batallones de soldados leales a España.

¡Contenta puedes estar madre XV Brigada, tus hijos saben vencer en millares de Batallas! ¿Cuál es el mejor de todos cuando luchan con las armas? Luchando como Ellos luchan por la Causa Proletaria, no hay diferencia alguna son cuatro nombres de Plata.

¡Se grabaron en Brunete! ¡Se grabaron en Jarama! Se grabaron en Quinto y Belchite, Teruel y muchas batallas. Y quedaron grabadas siempre sus cuatro nombres de Plata. Y cuando la guerra termine con la victoria Proletaria, España entera cantará a ti XV Brigada por tus cuatro Batallones grabados en nombres de Plata. ¡Mackenssi-Pappino, Inglés, Lincoln y Veinticuatro, tus cuatro hijos del alma!

SANTIAGO LÓPEZ
(XV Brigada Ingenieros)

FOREIGN MEDICAL AID

The Foreign Medical Aid Committee began to function in Spain a year and a half ago. Today the organization has 17 base hospitals and 6 mobile surgical units, with a total of 5,028 beds; 116 ambulances of various sizes, 53 large trucks, 13 light trucks, 23 touring cars, 7 mobile operating theatres, 7 disinfection trucks, and a number of gas-proof ambulances.

There are 163 foreign doctors and 68 Spanish doctors in the Foreign Medical Aid. Among these there are 10 foreign surgeons and 9 Spanish surgeons. Up to December 31, 1937, the base hospitals of the Foreign Medical Aid attended to 27,015 wounded and sick, most of whom were evacuated from Foreign Medical Aid front hospitals by Foreign Medical Aid ambulances.

There have been a number of casualties. Two Divisional Medical Commanders, one Brigade Medical Commander, and three Battalion Medical Commanders have been killed. One doctor died of a contagious disease at the front, one died of illness in the rear, and one disappeared. A considerable number of stretcher bearers, ambulance drivers and others engaged in auxiliary services have been lost.

In addition to its medical work, the Foreign Medical Aid has organized seven children's homes, housing more than 600 orphans. To help these homes the wounded soldiers of the International Brigades have contributed 200,000 pesetas.



SON OF "COWBOY PHILOSOPHER" in Spain. Bill Rogers, whose father, Will Rogers, was known to millions throughout the world who saw him on the stage and screen, has just ended a visit to Spain, during which he travelled several thousand kilometers throughout the country. Through "The Volunteer" he sends his best wishes for victory to the People's Army, especially to the Fifteenth Brigade, and "especially to the fellows from the West Coast." Rogers was in Barcelona when the intense forty-hour fascist bombardment occurred, and he expects to do things about it when he returns to his native California. Among other things, Rogers said that support for the Loyalists is growing steadily in the States, and that everyone back home is proud of, and follows anxiously, the work of the Americans in the Fifteenth Brigade.

LAS FACHADAS DE LOS EDIFICIOS DE LAS CIUDADES REBELDES, CUBIERTAS DE FOTOGRAFÍAS DE MUSSOLINI, HITLER Y OLIVEIRA SALAZAR

París. — Tharaud ha publicado en «Paris-Soir» el segundo artículo sobre la España facciosa. A pesar de ser franquista, Tharaud ha quedado impresionado por la enorme cantidad de carteles espectaculares que se encuentran en todos los pueblos ocupados por los facciosos. Estos carteles presentan grandes retratos de Hitler, Mussolini y Oliveira Salazar. Mussolini está fotografiado en actitudes teatrales.

FOUR NAMES OF SILVER

Four glorious names has the Fifteenth Brigade Four Battalions of steel emerged from its depths. In the year since its birth your four sons of the soul reared to great heights the name that you gayly gave them at birth: Mackenzie-Papineau, English, Lincoln, and the Twenty-fourth. These are the four names that emerged from nothingness transforming themselves into Battalions of soldiers loyal to our Spain. You can be contented, Fifteenth Brigade, for your sons know how to win in thousands of battles! What is better than fighting well?

lighting as they fight for the proletarian cause? There is no difference, They are four names of Silver. They engraved themselves in Brunete. They engraved themselves at Jarama

They engraved themselves at Quinto and Belchite, Teruel and in many other battles. And they shall remain engraved together forever — these four names of Silver: And when the war ends with the people's victory the whole of Spain shall sing of you, Fifteenth Brigade; of your four battalions engraved in names of Silver: Mackenzie-Papineau, English, Lincoln and Twenty-fourth — your four sons of the soul!

SANTIAGO LÓPEZ
(15th Brigade Engineers)

THE BELOVED WEED

The scarcity of tobacco in Spain produces many odd phenomena, one of which is a certain type of small cigarette which is issued to the army from time to time. The Spaniards call these things «Mataquintos», which means «Rooky-busters». To others they are known as «Anti-tanks», because they are small but very nasty. A third faction refers to them as the Asbestos brand, for two reasons, one obvious, the other odious. They say that these cigarettes are as good as any made in Spain which remark is in itself a good example of war's unnecessary hardships.

Tobacco seems a little thing when a country is at war, but it makes the strain very much easier to bear. Those who still smoke in peace may not understand how

great a pleasure a cigarette can give out here. So much so that men stop when they see a cigarette butt in their path, and if it looks any good at all, pick it up and add it to their collection.

The army has little, the civilians less. An English volunteer walking with a Spaniard, offered him a cigarette from a few he had received in a letter. An old peasant happened to be passing. The Spaniard handed his cigarette to the old man, because, as he afterwards explained, the fellow loved a smoke but very seldom got one.

If our friends at home want to do us a good turn, to send tobacco is still one of the best. The more we receive from home, the more is released here for the civilian population.

¡ETA, LO MANTIENE CON EL PICO Y LA PALA



¡DOS DIVISIONES DE JUVENTUDES EN DIEZ DÍAS!

Millares y millares de jóvenes entusiastas y decididos, empuñan espontáneamente el fusil para defender sus libertades amenazadas, para conquistar sus derechos. Son voluntarios de la libertad, héroes de nuestra magnífica juventud, que, con su esfuerzo, logrará vencer definitivamente al fascismo.

Las masas populares del mundo entero la juventud mundial, que actualmente redoblan su esfuerzo para ayudarnos, saludan a estos nuevos voluntarios. El pueblo antifascista saluda también a esta juventud gloriosa, que marca el camino de victoria movilizandó sus recursos. Y los combatientes, los veteranos y los que acaban de incorporarse, sienten elevarse su moral, cuando saben que la juventud está dispuesta a dar todo su esfuerzo, a movilizar hasta su último recurso para aplastar al fascismo invasor de nuestro sagrado suelo.

Las dos divisiones de la Juventud, que han encontrado eco entusiasta en toda nuestra España, en toda Cataluña amenazada, van forjándose con el calor y el entusiasmo de esos millares de jóvenes que transmiten por pueblos y ciudades, por fábricas y talleres, su consigna de victoria: ¡DOS DIVISIONES EN DIEZ DIAS!

SPANISH YOUTH. The J. S. U. is in the midst of its great campaign to recruit thousands of young people for the army. Its slogan, which has already gone far toward complete fulfillment, is: "Raise Two Divisions of Youth in Ten Days!"

BRITAIN AIDS VOLUNTEERS

The Wounded and Dependents Aid Committee of Britain has just issued a report of its first six months work. Up to November 30, 1937, it had collected over 14,000 pounds and this had been given to maintain the families of the Britishers with the International Brigade and to aid the wounded who have returned home.

The fund is officially supported by the Trade Union Congress and many union Executive Committees have advised their members to give contributions. Among those who have donated money are 2,000 local and District, Labour, Trade Union and political organisations.

The amalgamated Engineers Union Branches have headed the list with over 300 donations. Other Unions which have given consistent support are the Miners, Railmen, Distributive Workers and Printers.

In 100 factories collections have been taken. Some every week. In one printing works, Odhams Press, the printers of the Daily Herald, the men have subscribed 600 pounds in six months.

Since the report has been issued a Christmas appeal resulted in 2,500 pounds being subscribed. This enabled the Committee to send Christmas parcels to Spain, give extra financial assistance to the women and children, and organise big Christmas parties at which all the children received presents.

The motto of the Committee is "So long as the men in Spain carry on we also carry on."

R. H. BROWN

MODESTO CITES XV BRIGADE

Modesto, commanding the Fifth Army Corps, cited the XV Brigade for its work outside Teruel while the action was in progress. A further compliment was paid to the British Battalion for its good digging, which saved many lives. The honor of being promoted on the field to their present ranks was accorded to Major Smith and Captain Diaz of the MacPaps, and Captain Alexander of the British. These were the two Battalions who

took the severest strain of the fighting in this battle, and suffered the heaviest casualties.

In his note to the Division during the action at Segura, General Walter said:

"I am grateful to the soldiers, officers and commissars of the two Brigades, especially the XVth, for their excellent work, and wish them many more victories over the fascist hordes."

RALPH FOX



BEN LEIDER



ANTI-FASCIST CLUB in Barcelona named in their honor. At a meeting of the English-speaking section, the members unanimously voted to name their group the Ben Leider-Ralph Fox Club, in memory of two outstanding men, one American, the other English, who gave their lives to the fight against fascism in Spain.

PEASANTS GET 30 TRACTORS

The Ministry of Agriculture has purchased 30 tractors which it is distributing in the following manner:

Six to the farm schools established by the Institute of Agrarian Reform in Valencia, Cuenca and Albacete, where they will be used to instruct the peasants in tractor-driving.

Five to Aragon.

Eighteen to different parts of New Castile, where the preparation of the land for the Spring sowing is most behind hand.

One to the General Administration of Prisons, to aid in the work of land drainage being carried out in the penal colony of Alhatera.

The use of these tractors will not only compensate for the decrease in animals working the land, but will also accustom the peasants to modern agricultural methods and will prepare them for a further development in this respect.

ARRANGING THINGS PROPERLY

The young battalion commissar, with a grin as broad as his shoulders, heard that the fascists had struggled into Teruel again. His grin grew broader still.

"Last time they went out of that town," he said, "they left it full. If they're coming back in, God knows they'll find it empty. Let's give them time to fill it up before we throw them out again."



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Barcelona - April 3, 1938

ONE ORDER IN EVERYONE'S MIND: **RESIST** SAYS NEGRIN IN RADIO TALK TO THE NATION

(The following is the speech delivered by Dr. Juan Negrin, Prime Minister of the Spanish Republic, on March, 28, 1938)

Spaniards:

The man who is speaking to you, as head and in the name of the Government, has a right to demand of you complete confidence in his words, for he repeatedly warned you, and in happier times, of the approach of days of cruel tests such as the extremely difficult days through which we are at present passing.

We are passing through hard times. The invading army has undertaken a very violent offensive in which it is employing a huge quantity of war material. This offensive, by the very manner in which it is being carried out, reflects in reality the frightened haste of the invaders to modify the map of Europe in their own favour by annexing Spain before they are asphyxiated by the wave of indignation which is sweeping the world as a result of the designs of the aggressors on peaceful peoples. Day by day this indignation is mounting, and it is beginning to assume tremendous proportions.

But in the very haste with which they are attempting to convert our country into a colony lies the seed of their failure because our glorious Army, with the entire Spanish people at its side, is undertaking to convert this haste into a pause. Our soldiers have been obliged to abandon positions, but they



have done this after having put up superhuman resistance to the combined attacks of the foreign air force, artillery, and tanks. The invading army has been able to verify that it is no easy undertaking, whatever means may be employed, to drive back an army like our own, consisting of Spaniards who are defending the dignity and the independence of their country and, at the same time, the principles of law, justice and peace. These principles are dear to all peoples, and however disdained they may be in other parts, they retain their everlasting virtue in Spain.

HEROISM OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE

In Upper and Lower Aragon, our soldiers, the Spanish soldiers, are carrying out acts of heroism which excel any recorded by history. Even the foreign press, which is hostile to us, has been obliged to admit with what fortitude and bravery the Republican Army has borne the avalanches of fire of the foreign air forces and artillery; how our soldiers have fearlessly faced the hundreds of tasks of the invaders; how they have allowed themselves to be crushed by these tanks rather than open the coil of our fatherland to them. And the enemy has not merely encountered resistance. The Army of the Republic has fought with such heroism that in some battles it has captured Italian prisoners and tanks. And our aviators, the avia-

tors who do not machine-gun women and children in the rear, but who, outnumbered, face the huge air force sent by Italy and Germany and, by impeding the barbarous action of the enemy in the air, are writing pages of glory.

Our entire people are shaken with pride by the heroic deeds of the Army, which shows that its soldiers know how to carry themselves like Spaniards.

THE WILL TO CONQUER AND THE UNITY OF OUR PEOPLE

This heroism, this unselfishness of the Army of the Republic, are merely the reflection of the entire Spanish people to cause the plans of our country's enemies to fail. This is shared by all honourable Spaniards, by all the good and industrious people of our country, because they all know what it would mean to be reduced to the vile condition of colonial vassals of Italian and German fascism. **This is understood by country and city workers, by small industrialists, the middle class, and the intellectuals. They know that it not only means oppression, ruin and misery, but also physical annihilation. They know well the murders and persecutions carried out in the countries where fascism has imposed itself and the voices of those who have been assassinated in the part of Spain they have taken from us resound in their ears.**

The Basques know what fascism has done to their country, where all their beloved traditions have been cruelly trodden under foot.

The Catalans are not unaware that one of the most important aims of our enemies is the brutal elimination of the liberties which Catalonia achieved following the establishment of the Republic. They can see this in the measures adopted in fascist territory, where it is considered a crime to use the Catalan language.

This conviction on the part of our people of what the triumph of fascism would mean for them compels all Spaniards to unite firmly in order to bar its passage. The Government is continually receiving from all corners of Republican Spain, from cities and villages, from the fronts and the rear, testimonies of support and words of encouragement to continue the struggle undismayed until victory is achieved. These messages of support are proof that Spain is mobilised for the war, that the Government is receiving not only words of loyalty but active support.

The Spanish people, spurred by their deepest feeling, love of independence, are doing everything they can.

THIS GOVERNMENT IS A WAR GOVERNMENT

These words of loyalty and this active support constitute an inexhaustible reserve of energy upon which the Government will draw

and which it will know to use, for it is able and wishes to show to its people that it knows how to be a war government, a government worthy of the people.

The effectives of our Army will be increased by drawing on the reserves of volunteers who are now presenting themselves. Specialised workers will be incorporated into fortification brigades; and in this way a double barrier of cement and soldiers will be created against which the enemies of Spain, of the civilised world, and of peace, will end by destroying themselves. Implacable action will be taken against the cowards, against the feeble-hearted, and against those who are not able to rise to the level of the magnificent deeds which the Spanish people are performing. **In the struggle against these elements the Government will be in the lead, and I myself at the head of it.**

INVINCIBILITY OF OUR CAUSE

Let us realise that our strength is incalculable. The confidence and affection of the people for the Government of the Republic, which are shown in a thousand ways, are not enjoyed by our enemies. In their rear there are millions of Spaniards who do not wish to see their country in the hands of foreigners; and in the ranks of their Army, not only among the soldiers but also among their officers there is growing a patriotic feeling, as well as a fervent desire that the Republic be victorious in spite of all difficulties, so that it may guarantee the independence of Spain.

We are more numerous than they, and we are fighting for a worthy cause, which cannot be conquered either by the steel or by the gunpowder which they are receiving from abroad, as payment for their treason.

And to the people who are supporting us and giving us inspiration we of the Government assure and ratify in full the declaration made to the Cortes to the effect that **this is not a Government of pacts, capitulations, or compromises. The Government will fulfil firmly, without weakness or vacillation, the mission it received when it was formed, namely, that of defending the independence of Spain.** And this it will do not only because it wishes to honour its word, but because it is convinced that by persisting in the defence of Spain it will achieve victory. The military situation is difficult, and we do not attempt to conceal this fact. But the difficulty is, fortunately, not insuperable. We insist that the two foreign nations which first provoked the Spanish Civil War and which then converted it into a war of invasion are trying by all possible means within their reach to hasten the end. They are in a hurry to put an end to the independence of Spain because they are convinced, just as we are, that time is against them. Every day of resistance is a day gained for Spain.

CATALONIA WILL BE ANOTHER MADRID

The assurances which the Government gave the Army regarding war material are not vain ones. If there is resistance, there will be war material. Or, to put it more clearly: if we resist, we shall obtain the victory which we desire. There must be only one order in everyone's mind: resist! This order is all the more sacred in view of the fact that it is the mandate of the Spanish fatherland which, in these moments of trial, calls to all Spaniards alike, upon those fighting at the front and those working in the rear — to resist. The summons is final and decisive. All our capacity for sacrifice must be set on foot. With much or with little material, with bread or without bread, we must resist. The soldier at the front, the worker in the workshop, the woman in the home, and the child in the school must resist. Every day of resistance causes an upset in the plans of the invaders, which they attempt to offset by increasing the violence of their air raids on open cities. They try to break the morale of the Spanish people in order to weaken their spirit and to overcome the threat of delay. And now they are speculating with the idea that the Catalan people are incapable of repeating the brave resistance of the people of Madrid. We are convinced of the contrary. We place our faith in the Catalan people whom we believe to be capable of rivalling all the peoples of the earth in heroism in the same way as we were certain of the impregnability of Madrid.

Catalonia wishes to fulfil her destiny and this destiny can be fulfilled only within an independent and Republican Spain. The very spirit of Catalonia is made up of liberal ideals. Neither she nor her sons were made for colonial slavery. The invading armies will find her determined to put up a united and vigorous resistance. And by this resistance Catalonia will save herself and contribute to the salvation of Spain. All her material and moral energies are urgently demanded, but they are demanded with hope. The effort of Catalonia will not be lost just as no effort on the part of the Spanish people has been lost. We have needed the efforts of all the Spaniards in order to make the outside world see the Spanish war in its exact setting.

THE DEMOCRACIES HAVE NOT HELPED US

The democracies of Europe have not desired or have not been able to spare us suffering. They denied us what we needed to suppress the insurrection, and their denial has caused us untold losses of blood and has had the final result of converting this war into a war of invasion which is also a grave menace to the peace of Europe. The deception of the European democracies has caused incalculable damage to our country. But this damage will be small compared to that which will be

caused to Europe unless, as one may legitimately expect, the democracies of Europe decide to emerge from their hiding-place of fears and vacillations. This hope, which is not only a hope of Spain, but of the whole world, cannot be frustrated in Spain. We are determined to prolong resistance. We feel strong and calm. We ask the soldiers to be heroic and we ask the civilian population to be confident. Whatever trials the enemy may put us to, we ask the people for resistance. The Government conserves intact the spirit in which it was born: it remains faithful to the desires of the people. It intends to achieve victory and if, as the Government is certain, the mobilisation of material resources and moral energy, for which it calls, is responded to with enthusiasm, it will achieve victory.

The situation is difficult, we admit. But fortunately for our cause it is neither more nor less difficult than other painful stages which were overcome. And the present stage will also be overcome. We shall with a collective effort rise to the difficulty and reconquer the land we have lost, which is clamouring for the return of its independence. Catalonia will help us with her enthusiasm as a liberal people to achieve this reconquest. Her nerve centre, the proletariat and the middle classes, maintain from olden times the unbreakable resolution not to yield their freedom to the aggression of the invader. Catalonia has spontaneously raised the order to resist. May the whole of loyal Spain imitate her resolution and copy her firmness. May the heroism of the soldiers be answered by the heroism of the workers. May the shovels and the picks help the work entrusted to the rifles. May the spirit of the people show itself in an overpowering and decisive manner. In short, may the will of all, full of determination, be concentrated energetically on the fronts, where the battle for victory is in progress. Resist, resist, and resist! Produce, produce, and produce! With every day of resistance and labour we achieve a new chance of victory. He who deserts his post is a traitor. He who allows his will to be broken is a traitor. He who utters words of discouragement is a traitor. Now that the destinies of Spain are at stake, we can only have a fever of heroism and passion for service. In the presence of the world and in the tragic intimacy of our country the Government says to all Spaniards:

On with resistance to the invader! Perseverance in the defence of our independence! By resisting and persevering we shall conquer.

When it rallies you to resistance, the Government knows that it is not asking a useless sacrifice of you. Every week, every day which we gain serves to compensate for the inequality in material between ourselves and the enemy. Since I spoke to you and assured you that the prospects regarding an increase in war material were favourable, the power

of the Republican Army has increased considerably. Had this not been so, the present resistance would not have been possible. It is only in aircraft that the rhythm has not been accelerated sufficiently to avoid the superiority of the enemy. But our tenacity will not yield and we shall also succeed in dominating them in the air. Hundreds and hundreds of young Spanish pilots are waiting for a plane to be given to them so that they can oppose and defeat Italians and Germans.

THE FARCE OF NON-INTERVENTION

To those foreigners who still insist on shutting their eyes to evidence, who at the beginning of Non-Intervention denied the arrival of German and Italian planes, who declared they did not believe our exposure of the accumulation of regular Italian and German divisions — to which the Pharaonic name of «volunteers» has been given — who with the greatest hypocrisy have coined the expression of the «unknown submarine» in order to avoid obligations and compromises, who believe that the swarms of enemy planes which are razing our land have been spontaneously born of themselves, I should recommend, if, as they indicate, they do not trust their own information services, that they read and verify the concrete data on the arrival of war material and war technicians formulated today by our own Minister of National Defence.

Let them reflect whether the German ships which unloaded twenty-eight centimeter guns in Bilbao and which conveyed modern heavy artillery to Pasajes to be placed along the Franco-Spanish frontier, and those which have transported powerful material, long-range and fixed artillery, to Melilla and other places, let them reflect, I repeat, whether they believe that this material is to be used for fighting on the fronts in Aragon, the Centre, Levante, or Andalusia. And if they believe that the German technicians who are coming to settle definitely with their families have come for such a long stay merely to assure the triumph of the fascist, let us repeat once again:

That our struggle is not a civil war; it is a defence against the invasion and tyrannisation of Spain by foreigners. The error of those fascists who believe that their triumph would be the triumph of Franco and his Phalanx is a grave one. No. Their triumph would mean the offering up of generations of Spanish youth in a future war, who would be sacrificed in foreign lands on the altars of Italian and German interests. It would mean the iniquitous slavery of our people by those who, ingrained in the belief of a proud superiority engendered by their sheep-like servility, feel in their heart of hearts a profound contempt for a people whose greatness, nobility and virtues they have never learned to understand.

What is taking place in Spain is not a fight of ideologies. Our land is being stained with blood as the prelude, which were it not for the efforts of our people would be decisive, of a dispute for the hegemony first of Europe and then of the world. And whatever may be our political and social conceptions, whatever may be the soil which we call our fatherland, every man who feels the pride of his country and of his race cannot but arise against those who, owing to the fact that they consider themselves a new chosen people, wish to submit the rest to vassalage. Therefore, Spain, by defending herself is defending the entire world.

FAITH IN VICTORY

Faith in victory, Spaniards! Spain will not allow herself to be devoured. Spain will not surrender, and a people who do not surrender cannot be conquered. The conduct of Spain is an example for the whole world. And in all parts it is already known that on Spain's fate depends the fate of all the free and peaceful countries which are threatened by the greed of fascism. Let certain countries not forget that if the battles which the Spanish people are today fighting were adverse to us in their final results, they would have at their back an Army of a million men ready to attack them.

The world is on our side. Millions of men and women in all countries are following our struggle with anxiety. The cause of Spain today influences and moves the life of all countries which have not been converted into a gaol. Let us all be worthy of the admiration shown to us, of the confidence everywhere in our victory. Let us show the world a noble effort to save our country by hastening every one of us to fulfil the posts in which we are needed. When they see our unbreakable determination to conquer, millions of people throughout the world will be stimulated with new ardour to help us.

All to the struggle! Let us mobilise all our energies!

Officers of the Army: Remember that you are following the tradition of the heroes who in the past know how to destroy the invaders.

War Commissars: You are the interpreters in the Army of the humane and just cause which our people are defending. Continue your brilliant record of unselfishness and heroism!

Soldiers: Continue your heroic defence of the soil of Spain. Resist, resist! Your Government will give you the means to do so and the means to attack later and destroy the enemy.

Spaniards: Confidence in triumph. Onwards!

Long live the Republic!

Long live Spain!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 15

Barcelona, April 9 - 1938

DEFENSE WORK SWEEPS FORWARD AS GOVERNMENT IS STRENGTHENED

A Cabinet meeting was held in the residence of the Prime Minister with the object of handing over the portfolios to the members of the new Government.

At its conclusion the following note was handed to journalists:

Now that the Government has been reorganised it addresses itself to all those Spaniards, at the front and in the rearguard, as well as in rebel territory, who are struggling against the armies of the invader. The Government proclaims its absolute determination to continue the war for the independence of Spain until it has freed all Spanish soil from those who have attacked and invaded it, assisted by the most monstrous international conspiracy that the world has ever seen.

In this determination, it counts on its People's Army, which on the Centre Front, in Extremadura, in Andalusia and in Levante, is not only holding its positions with invincible firmness, but these days is undeniably proving its strong offensive spirit by enthusiastically coming to the aid of the more threatened sectors.

As regards Catalonia, the heroism with which our soldiers are fighting on the Eastern Front is a sign of their iron-like tenacity, and the German and Italian armies, deceived by the easy successes of their first advances, have as yet no idea of what the war for the freedom of Catalonia will be like.

It remains for Catalonia to move the world with an impetus which will halt the enemy and put a stop to the fascist atrocities, the mass executions, the bombing of the civilian population and the regime of slavery which makes men into pawns; an enemy which has so outraged

CABINET MEMBERS

The new war Government is now composed of the following leaders:

PREMIER AND NATIONAL DEFENSE, don Juan Negrín López, (S. P.).

STATE, don Julio Álvarez del Vayo, (S. P.).

GOVERNMENT, don Paulino Gómez Sáiz, (S. P.).

JUSTICE, don Ramón González Peña, (U. G. T.).

AGRICULTURE, don Vicente Uribe, (C. P.).

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND SANITATION, don Segundo Blanco González, (C. N. T.).

FINANCE AND ECONOMY, don Francisco Méndez Aspe, (L. R.).

PUBLIC WORKS, don Antonio Velao Oñate, (L. R.).

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT, don Bernardo Giner de los Ríos, (U. R.).

LABOR, don Jaime Aguadé, (L. R. of C.).

MINISTERS WITHOUT PORTFOLIO, don José Giral, (L. R.), and D. Manuel de Irujo, (Basque National Party).

HIGH POSTS

SUBSECRETARY OF FINANCE, don Adolfo Sixto Hontán.

SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE, don Julián Zugazagoitia (Ex-Minister of Government of the previous Government).

THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS OF SUBSECRETARIES HAVE BEEN MADE:

STATE, don Quero Molares

AVIATION, don Carlos Núñez Mazas

MARINE, don Alfonso Játiva

ARMY, don Antonio Córdón

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, don Puig Elías

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PROPAGANDA, don Javier Bueno

also Minister for National Defense, has demanded and obtained from the Cabinet the maximum authority to act both in punishing those who deserve to be punished and in purging the key positions which are essential for victory, with the speed and the energy which the gravity of the circumstances demands.

For the execution of all this the Government feels that it is empowered with supreme authority, which it derives from the elements of which it is composed, i.e. from the fact that it is a true Government of national unity.

In foreign affairs the Cabinet has taken cognizance of the wording of a note addressed to the French and British Governments.

The Government of the Republic, which is full of confidence in victory and inspired by the idea of a Spain of the future free from all foreign domination, in greeting the combatants of the Army, the Air Force and the Fleet, proudly welcomes those thousands of soldiers of the Army of the East, who, after crossing into France, demanded a post of honour in the lines of fire. These men are, for those who think only of saving themselves, an example of patriotism which should strengthen the will of all in the land we are defending; while for those abroad, who feign ignorance of the real state of opinion of the Spanish people, they are a demonstration which equals any plebiscite.

The Government of the Republic, confident of the enthusiastic collaboration of the entire Spanish people, does not plunge into a mass of words, but immediately set to work and begins from this moment to work as a war Government.

Spanish feelings by the foreign totalitarian methods of war and which hopes to make this glorious Catalonia a victim of its frenzied hate.

In order to rise to the level of the heroism of our troops and to assure them that none of their sacrifices will be in vain and that they shall be led to victory by

men resolved at all costs to win the war, the Government at today's meeting has decided not only to bring about a reconcentration of the Nation's forces, but also to make the entire weight of Republican law fall pitilessly and instantaneously on the traitors and on the cowards.

The Prime Minister, who is



RICARDO DIAZ of the MAC-PAPS

When I asked Capt. Diaz to give me his life story, he smiled and said it was unimportant. This time Capt. Diaz was wrong. The lives of all anti-fascists are important in these decisive days, especially those who have proved themselves capable of leadership where the struggle has sharpened to war.

Ricardo Diaz is small, but tough. He was born into a family where the cause of the working class was already a tradition. Diaz entered into his tradition and never found a reason to turn aside. In early days he came up against that opposition to those who stand up for the rights of the workers which all of us have encountered in one form or another. These experiences toughen a man, but at the same time they make him more human. Diaz has learned the value of good comradeship; his toughness is not the hard brutality of the man who fights only for himself. Diaz greets you with an unaffected air of welcome that makes you feel he likes you as much as you like him.

His first years were spent in Africa. His father worked as a mason in Tangier, and occupied his spare time with political work. Young Ricardo followed suit, and before long was serving on a Committee of Action, which, as its name suggests, continually and inevitably collided with the opposition. As a result Ricardo had several prison sentences to his credit before the Civil War broke out, and was well acquainted with the fascist mentality.

When he heard that military rebellion had broken out in Spain, he sailed for Barcelona and enlisted in the militia. His unit marched up to the Huesca front, armed mainly with sticks. We who know the Republican Army as it is today would imagine that without rifles



nobody could hold a position, let alone advance. The militia advanced. Capt. Diaz states that the defending troops were men of the Civil Guard, and at the first approach of opponents who clearly meant business they ran away. One hill held out, and then the militia were stumped, until the Durruti Column came up with rifles and stormed the position.

Diaz left Aragon and was sent down to Madrid, where he joined the newly-formed 14th International Brigade. His fluent command of French was a useful talent among the French volunteers. He



could also speak to the Moor in their own language when the prisoners started coming in. These were the days when the Moors crept up at night and used their knives; they were also the days when the Moors fell in hundreds in front of our machine guns, while Madrid stood triumphantly untaken.

In course of time Diaz was sent to the Officers' School of the Internationals, and after working through the course went on to join the new MacPap Battalion at the training camp. He came up with this battalion to join the XV Brigade and went into action at Fuentes, after which he received Lieutenant's rank.

In the action at Teruel in January he was one of three officers of our Brigade who received the special honour of being promoted on the field, under recommendation from Modesto, commanding the Fifth Army Corps. His company occupied the dangerous position on the Battalion's flank. There are men in that company who state that they owe their lives to Diaz and two or three others, who at great risk to themselves took up a position from which they were able to protect the withdrawal of this group with effective covering fire. Subsequently in the attack on Atalaya Diaz's company was selected to go forward as advance guard because it was considered an especially reliable unit. At the present time Capt. Diaz is acting commander of the MacPaps while Major Smith is away.

I asked him for his estimate of the present military situation. He smiled again and said he was no prophet; but it looked to him as if Franco was making a big push under orders from his masters in Germany and Italy, who wanted

the war won quickly and their material returned. If that is the case, he went on, our first and all-important duty is to make our lines impregnable in the face of all fresh fascist efforts—in other words, to fortify and stand firm. Franco's strength will break on our solid resistance, and his masters' wishes will prove impossible to carry out. Meanwhile his temporary successes have done us one good turn. They have awakened those elements in the rearguard who were still sleeping. From now on we shall see better coordination and a faster rate of work. Strengthened in the rear and fortified in the front, we shall weaken the power of the fascist drive, and finally turn it until we press forward ourselves and hasten the day of victory.

"And then?" I asked. "What do you plan to do when the war has been won?"

This time Capt. Diaz laughed outright. He said that he was far too busy to think about what he would do after the war. He had a "novia" in Africa. He would marry her and return to Spain to continue working for the Spanish people. There would still be much to do. More than that he could not say.



LA OCUPACION ALEMANA DE LA ESPAÑA REBELDE

Londres, 25. — La revista conservadora *National Review* comenta en su número de febrero, que acaba de publicarse, la incautación alemana de los recursos mineros de la España rebelde en los términos siguientes:

«Los alemanes no han derrochado sus esfuerzos; no apoyan al general Franco más que en beneficio propio. Todo lo que dicen acerca de la «derrota del bolchevismo» es sólo para convencer a los tontos de aquí y de otros sitios. Alemania ha visto en dónde estaba su suerte, y la aprovechado. Si la guerra continúa, hasta puede tener colonias, pues está profundamente arraigada en los territorios españoles de Ultramar, y, aunque el general no desee desprenderse de estos territorios, puede, como Felipe V, verse obligado a hacerlo.»

Hay, por lo menos, cuatro o cinco organizaciones alemanas, muy activas y poderosas, que trabajan para asegurar el control de los más importantes yacimientos de mineral de hierro en la España rebelde y en el Marruecos español.

La revista añade que la Compañía principal parece ser la «Isma» cuyo personal técnico dirigente está constituido por expertos químicos e industriales experimentados que hablan español.

THEY MUST

Comrades, we are in the midst of lies in our power to resist. Trained tanks and aviation, are plowing the barbarous rule of fascism on the ground.

Catalonia will never allow itself to be mobilizing at a feverish pace to a dependence.

The Spanish people know what know that by capitulating to the on would be giving themselves up to the Italy; they would be sacrificing the jurisdictional rights and their language oppressors; they, would lose their nation's riches for social purposes.

Already our men at the front are rich, new cannons and more equipment, but a vast improvement has taken place. The greater the resistance shown be had for our soldiers.

The unmistakable motto today and FORTIFY ON THE SPOT.

Seventeen months ago Madrid falling now. But this brave people not the city, but drove ahead to inflict a blow. What the Madrileños could do now. Madrid was saved not by a mere firm determination not to let them pass.

The fascists are frantically trying must not be allowed to take another the Republic of Spain, and the freed whole civilized world. RESIST WITH



Esta misma organización posee el monopolio de la exportación del mineral de hierro del Marruecos español. Los agentes alemanes trabajan de acuerdo con los abastecedores germanos de material de guerra — aviones, ametralladoras, rieles y armamento de todas clases — a los rebeldes, y como ni unos ni otros tienen dinero para pagarse mutuamente, han firmado un amplio acuerdo de *clearing*, a fin de liquidar sus deudas y créditos. Los ingleses han sido recientemente autorizados para procurarse una pequeña cantidad de mineral de hierro, merced a la intervención del general Franco, y a asegurarse divisas extranjeras; pero, sepámoslo o no, el control de todos los cargamentos de mineral de hierro está sometida a la aprobación de la compañía «Isma», que posee el monopolio de éste.

"WITH HIS OWN BODY HE SHIELDED ME..."

Attached to the British Battalion when we went into action at Fuentes de Ebro last October were two American comrades, Sam Kaplan and another (whose name I never knew), whose great courage in volunteering to get me to safety when I was badly wounded cost them their lives. Realising that my condition was bad, Lieutenant F. Morris from Wales and another English comrade decided they would place me on a stretcher, and with the assistance of the two Americans, who were to act as relays, make a dash for the ambulance which was located in a sunken road some 400 metres from the trench.

We started from the ambulance, but we had barely begun to move when suddenly we were met by a burst of machine gun fire from the fascist lines. The only thing that could be done then was for the stretcher-bearers to take me to a patch of ground where I would be comparatively safe from their fire, and this was accordingly done.

But almost immediately the two American comrades fell, one killed outright, and the other, Sam Ka-

plan of Brooklyn, N. Y., mortally wounded.

Turning off the stretcher on to the ground, I received another bullet in the arm, but it was slight. Fortunately it did not penetrate the limb; it just grazed through the fleshy part.

As I crawled along the ground, attempting to make the trench again, I reached Sam Kaplan, who by this time was bleeding profusely from the nose and mouth. With what may have been his last breath, he told me, in a forced whisper, to get my head close down near his chest, as another bullet wouldn't make any difference to him any more but might kill me. With his own body he shielded me from harm.

As long as I live and breathe, I will carry on the fight for which Sam Kaplan lived and died. And I will always remember this American comrade whose great courage, even as he lay there dying, made it possible for me to carry on, and to write these words.

JOHN PATTERSON
No. 1, Company British Battalion
15th. Brigade.

UN MANIFIESTO DE LAS SOCIEDADES ESPAÑOLAS DE TAMPA

Las sociedades españolas residentes en Tampa (Estado de Florida. — Estados Unidos de América), han redactado un importante manifiesto, que suscriben el Centro Español, el Centro Asturiano, los Caballeros Leales de América y Acción Gallego.

«Nuestra Patria está invadida por tropas extranjeras — afirma el manifiesto —, de lo que son únicos y verdaderos responsables los traidores a España, los fascistas, los rebeldes al legítimo Gobierno de la República.»

Más adelante, entre otras cosas, el manifiesto dice:

«No es posible que haya vacilación alguna en la actuación de los españoles de América: la indiferencia sería tan criminal como el apoyar a quienes, excusándose en falsos pretextos, pretenden hacer de nuestra Patria un país para sus explotaciones coloniales. Los españoles de América que, al abandonar el suelo patrio, lo hicieron en busca de ambientes donde nuestros esfuerzos pudieran traducirse en mejoras de nuestras vidas, negarían nuestras condiciones de hombres de trabajo, de hombres amantes de la libertad, si no acudiésemos a ponernos al lado del pueblo del cual salimos un día. Hoy, ante los hechos comprobados, sólo pueden persistir en el engaño aquellos cegados por odio lo por la inconsciencia que no quieren aceptar tales hechos.»

El manifiesto hace seguidamente un llamamiento a la unión de todos los españoles residentes en América, para prestar ayuda al pueblo español invadido por el fascismo internacional.

Se sabe que son ya muchas las entidades y particulares españoles que han correspondido con su entusiasta adhesión al manifiesto de las sociedades hispanas de Tampa y que este llamamiento ha despertado viva simpatía incluso en los sectores más alejados de la contienda española.

UN CALUROSO SALUDO DEL MAYOR ATTLEE A LOS SOLDADOS DE LA COMPAÑÍA QUE LLEVA SU NOMBRE

El mayor C. R. Attlee, jefe de la oposición parlamentaria británica, que tan inequívocamente ha demostrado su simpatía a la causa republicana española, ha dirigido recientemente al capitán de la compañía «Major Attlee», de las Brigadas Internacionales, una carta en la que se declara complacido sobremedida por haber leído la mención especial que de esa compañía se hace en la orden del día por su notable actuación en la batalla de Teruel.

Anteriormente, el mayor Attlee, con ocasión de su visita a la España republicana, en el pasado diciembre, había hecho llegar su saludo entusiasta a las Brigadas Internacionales, y en especial al batallón británico, mostrándose orgulloso del prestigio que habían sabido ganar sus compatriotas en la lucha por la libertad y la independencia de España, y prometiéndoles dar testimonio fiel a su regreso a Inglaterra, de cuanto en nuestra patria había visto.

NOT PASS!

critical days. The future of our victory an infantry aided by corps of artillery, in fields of free Spain and posting their and they occupy.

to be dominated by fascism. Its people me to the defense of their national in-

would mean to lose the war. They aughts of the invading army, they colonization schemes of Germany and autonomus regions, their traditions, freedom to their former landlords and social legislation, the use of the na- culture, liberty and life itself.

received more war material: new at. This is of course not adequate as place. More — much more — is on the invaders, the more equipment than

must be: RESIST AT ALL COSTS

ed the same difficult days we are fa- ly crushed the enemy at the gates of body defeat to the Italians at Guada- those hard days we can and must do le, but by desperate resistance and a

to break our lines of resistance. They up forward. Too much is at stake: — m and liberties of the peoples of the EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH!



CANADA PAYS TRIBUTE TO 15TH BRIGADE



Above is shown the stage of the Massey Hall meeting in Toronto, Canada, at which the first anniversary of the 15th International Brigade in Spain was celebrated. Draped across the back of the

stage was a huge banner carrying paintings of Mackenzie and Papineau, while the four large portraits were those of Neilo Makela, Joe Dallet, Bob Kerr and Ed Cecil-Smith.

BRITISH VOLUNTEER'S STORY POST CARD OF CAPTURE AND ESCAPE

FROM SPAIN
ADDRESSED TO ALABAMA

So down the road we marched, and when we came in sight of the bridge we observed a body of men about fifty strong on the side of the road. I halted the boys and detailed a patrol of six to go ahead and find out who they were. I told young Luis Sanchez to go with the patrol to do the talking (he was our Spanish Political Adjutant). The patrol moved ahead slowly, too slow, in fact, for my liking, so I walked up after them, followed by Bobby Walker, Joe Norman and Harry Dobson.

When we got in line with this group about fourteen of them came onto the road with rifles pointed at us, shouting "Manos arriba!" They then lined us up and started frisking us for guns. While this was going on, one of them was demanding money, watches and pistols.

There we were, stood up reaching for the sky, when I happened to catch Bobby Walker's eye.

"What are they, Sam, fascists?" said Bobby. I nodded.

"O. K.," he whispered, "Yes", I said, "let it go".

Then wham! Bobby's fist elevated the chin of the nearest fascist and then the fun started. I kicked the legs from under one, Dobson

hit one with a tin of bully in a sandbag and everybody in a bunch contributed to the free fight. What with fists and feet flying and guns a-popping it was real lively.

We all managed to get away.

with the exception of young Sanchez. Bobby had to swim the Ebro and finished on the road naked, but nevertheless O. K. The remainder of us are still arguing which of us beat Jesse Owens' record.



No ceder un solo palmo de terreno al enemigo. Defender bien cada posición conquistada. Mantener fuertes nuestras líneas. Fortificar, fortificar, fortificar. Es el gran deber del soldado, mandos y comisarios.

Lincoln-Washington Battalion,
April, 1938

Dear Folks at home:

I went out this mornin',
Old shells was a-fallin',
Wistlin' and a-fallin'
When I went out this mornin'.

I'm way over here
A long ways from home,
Over here in Spanish country
But I don't feel alone.

Folks over here don't treat me
Like white folks used to do.
When I was home they treated me
Just like they treatin' you.

I don't think things'll ever
Be like that again:
I done met up with folks
Who'll fight for me
Like I'm fightin' now for Spain.

Salud,

Johnny
LANGSTON HUGHES



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 16

Barcelona, April 13 - 1938

G. H. Q. OF THE ARMY OF THE EAST REORGANIZED AND STRENGTHENED

The Ministry of National Defense has completely reconstituted the General Staff of the Army of the East.

General Don Sebastian Pozas is no longer in command of the Army of the East, but is replaced by Lt.-Col. Don Juan Perea. Eduardo Castillo, Commissar of the Army of the East, is replaced by Don Ignacio Mantecon.

The Chief of Staff of the Army, Lt.-Col. Javier Linares, is replaced by Major Don Aniceto Carvajal.

The Defense Ministry's note states:

"The troops of the Army of the East are hereby divided into two main sectors. The Northern Sector will be commanded by Lt.-Col. Don Javier Linares, and the Southern Sector by Lt.-Col. Don Antonio Cordon (since this note was issued, Lt.-Col. Cordon has been given the post of Undersecretary of War in the new government). The Commissar of the Northern Sector will be Don Manuel Molina Maten, and the Commissar of the Southern Sector, Don Joaquin Alamedros Jimenez."

With these changes, and with the steady arrival and accumulation of more and better material of war of all kinds, the Command is expected to strengthen materially the situation on all fronts within the very near future.

Soldiers: Continue your heroic defense of the Soil of Spain. Resist, resist! Your Government will give you the means to do so, and the means to attack later and destroy the enemy.

Spaniards: Confidence in triumph. Onwards!

**Long live the Republic!
Long live Spain!**

Dr. JUAN NEGRIN



VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED

In view of the initiative of certain political parties and trade union organizations to encourage the recruiting of volunteers, the Minister of National Defense in the Gazette, published an order dated April 1, 1938, laying down conditions for the enlistment of volunteers.

They must be between the ages of 17 and 45 and not included in the levies already called up for military service. They must, moreover, undertake to serve in the Army until the war is over.

Enlisting may be done in places where there is no official military representative, through the local Municipal Council.

JOHN LITTLE BRINGS GREETINGS OF U. S. YOUTH

Bringing with him the greetings and solidarity of thousands of young Americans, John Little, N. Y. State Executive Secretary of the Y. C. L., arrived in Spain last week for an extended visit during which he hopes to spend as much time with the men of the Fifteenth Brigade as his many self-imposed jobs will permit.

Little entered Spain on April 2, bringing with him a shipment of 1,000,000 American cigarettes and ten large crates of personal packages for the Americans in the Brigade -- tangible expressions of the aforementioned greetings and solidarity. He plans to get all the information necessary to insure continuous communication between us and our friends at home, and to report back to the Friends of the Lincoln on what is most needed by the men. The shipment of cigarettes, incidentally, is a gift of the National Executive Committee of the Y. C. L.

You will probably have already seen and spoken with Comrade Little by the time this number of *The Volunteer* reaches the brigade. And, if all goes well, you will also have received that personal package. As for the cigarettes, everybody, including Comrade Little, is moving mountains in the effort to speed them to the brigade -- and at the same time hoping for the best.

Six weeks is the period of time John Little plans to remain with us -- and judging from his first week, the entire stay will be a crowded one. He has already seen and interviewed members of the J. S. U.; he has been with the English-speaking comrades in one of the new I. B. hospitals not far from Barcelona, and he has been up to the Lerida front, visiting the Campesinos with several Cuban-American comrades.

It was on his trip to Lerida that he got his first first-hand taste

of the Spanish war. Approaching the town, they drove right into one of those accurate artillery barrages that seem to box up a moving body wherever it goes.

(Continued on page 5)

FASCIST BOMBS KILL 10,000 KIDS BEHIND LINES

The following statistics show the number of children who have fallen victims to fascist bombardments from July 1936 to the end of March 1938:

Madrid (city)	579	1,384
Barcelona	398	1,010
Valencia	329	416
Asturias	1,214	2,099
Buzkadi	691	1,165
Guadalajara and Madrid Provinces	2,570	2,640
Santander and Province	1,247	1,800
Jaen and Province	211	355
Ciudad Real, Cuencu and Albacete Provinces	2,011	1,074
Catalonia (excluding Barcelona)	1,647	2,472
Total	10,790	15,320

CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

(See page 3)

SPANISH PEOPLES FRONT MESSAGE THANKS PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN

Heartfelt thanks were expressed to the people of England by the Spanish People's Front for their strong sympathy to the Loyal cause in a message signed by 7 political and trade union organizations recently. The message is signed by the following parties and Trade Union bodies: Republican Union Party, Left Republican Party, Socialist Party, Communist Party, General Union of Workers, National Confederation of Labor, and the Iberian Anarchist Federation.

The message follows:

The Spanish People's Front, the symbol of Spanish Democracy, wish to testify to the people of England their gratitude for the tremendous interest they are taking in our cause. The Spanish People's Front know very well that the sympathy shown to them by the people of England is little by little opening the eyes of the world to an understanding of the real meaning of our struggle and of the immense responsibility the democratic nations have taken upon themselves by the way in which they have abandoned us. The people of England, like all other peoples, are free of blame. It is sufficient for us to know that we have been properly understood by the mass of the English people for our faith to be strengthened and for our enthusiasm to increase. We are very concerned, as is only logical, with the outcome of our struggle. But we are even more concerned that the peoples should uphold our cause, although we regret that, for notorious difficulties, they cannot help us in the necessary degree. We desire victory and we shall struggle for this. But we wish our triumph to have the support of the free peoples and the approval of the democratic masses. Therefore the support of the people of England is more than comforting to us and strengthens our unbending determination to conquer. In view of the fact that we wish to conquer and because we desire that tomorrow our victory may mean brotherhood, confidence and friendship between ourselves and all peoples, the support of these peoples to-day forms a compromise which binds us as strongly as moral ties, which for us are of the greatest value.

It is surprising that the old nations, which by force of hard and



cruel struggles have throughout history proved themselves symbols of our civilisation, should not clearly understand why the Spanish Republic, which took upon itself the task of transforming our country by lawful methods, is sustaining this struggle, which was begun by people who wished to prevent Spain from attaining a higher standard of living and which has since been converted into a war of invasion.

Spain was a country where misery alone thrived. All our soldiers have experienced the terrible cruelty of the condition in which they were held. For the majority of them, facing death at the front is far less of a martyrdom than their former way of living. It was harder to win work in order to live than it is to win positions in a battle. The only crime of the Spanish Republic was that it wished Spain to cease being a feudal state and to attain standards of justice which other peoples enjoy. This the people of England achieved centuries ago and so did the people of France at the time of their Revolution. But even in order to achieve such a noble end we did not resort to violence. It was our enemies who resorted to violence. Unable to defeat us, they had to have recourse to other nations and preferred to sell their country rather than to tolerate the fact that it should be made more liveable. There is only one crime, if any, of which the Spanish people may be accused. Namely, that of having

waited so many centuries to put an end to their wretched condition. The people of England did not wait so long and for that reason they are to-day in the vanguard of civilization. Faithful to their traditions, the English people understand us, encourage us and, as far as possible, support us. And this encouragement, which for us is an inducement, is proof of the fact that we are fighting for justice, that we are sacrificing ourselves for the triumph of Democracy and that we are serving a desire for freedom. Our respect for these ideals is shared not only by the people of England, but by the peoples of the whole world.

(Continued on Page 6)

BORDER INCIDENT PROVES LOYALTY OF OUR SOLDIERS

On April 2 the Ministry of National Defense issued the following note:

«Three days ago the troops of a Division of the Army of the East crossed the French frontier to avoid being cut off by the enemy.

«The French authorities wished to know the attitude of each one of the soldiers with regard to the struggle which we are carrying on in Spain. In order that they should express their opinions with complete freedom the soldiers were separated from their officers.

«Without any discussion and with great enthusiasm 4,200 soldiers announced their decision to continue fighting for the Spanish Republic and declared themselves desirous of returning to rejoin the Republican Army at the earliest possible moment. Only 120 men expressed their desire to remain in France or to go to rebel territory.

«Thus, 97 per cent of more than 4,000 soldiers who, on crossing the frontier were materially exempt from any obligation to fight for the Republic, chose to continue to fulfil their duty, and only 3 per cent chose to evade this duty.»

NEWS BRIEFS OF THE WEEK

TRADE UNION DELEGATION CALLS FOR END OF EMBARGO

LONDON. — A delegation representing the General Council of Trade Unions visited Lord Halifax to demand the lifting of the embargo of arms exportation to Republican Spain.

Lord Halifax, whose pro-Hitler tendencies are well known explained to them in detail the point of view of the British Government.

WALES MINERS THREATEN GENERAL STRIKE FOR SPAIN

A number of Wales Trade Union leaders have announced that they will call a general strike of all the mines in Wales if the British Government doesn't soon abandon its policy of «non-intervention» toward the Spanish Government. The Executive Council of the Wales Federation has passed a resolution in which it declares that it is necessary to lend immediate aid to the Republican Government, so as to permit it to buy the necessary war material to defend herself and crush fascism.

BELGIAN WORKERS DEMONSTRATE TO RAISE BLOCKADE OF SPAIN

At various meetings of unemployed workers, and in the Borinage district, in the region of the center, in the metal-workers trade union at Laval, and at the coal mines of Vieille-Marhage, the workers have passed resolutions demanding the raising of the blockade against the Spanish government.

FRENCH YOUTH DEMAND OPENING OF PYRENEES

The Lay Republican Youth, the Communist Youth of the Paris Region, the Radical Youth and the Youth Sports Association have sent a joint telegram to the Premier, worded as follows:

«We strongly urge the Government to open the Pyrenees frontier within 24 hours, in order to save the Spanish Republic, Democracy, and World Peace.»

MONUMENT TO BLASCO IBAÑEZ

The Committee of Councillors and representatives from the various political and trade union organizations of the town of Burjassot (Province of Valencia), which was entrusted with erecting a monument to the Spanish novelist, Virente Blasco Ibañez, has completed its work.

It has been decided by the Burjassot municipal authorities to inaugurate the monument on April 11th.

"FASCIST HEROES"

«I was walking along the road beyond Tortosa», the refugee with his arm in an airplane splint told us, «when the fascist planes came over. I started to run toward the field, but before I could make it I felt a sharp pain in my arm, and I fell down. It hurt, not as much as now, but still it hurt. I turned my head to look — and there were three planes. Two of them were high up, one pretty low. The latter evidently saw me move, because it returned again and again to the open field where I was lying, exposed, and threw

those little grenade bombs at me. Luckily, they all landed wild, and I got only a few fragments of shrapnel. Finally I lay perfectly still, expecting every moment would be my last. That saved me. Thinking, evidently, that I was dead, the plane sped off.

«Heroic battle, that was», he ended. «A fascist plane, with machine guns and bomb grenades, against a single, unarmed man. Now I know what Mussolini means when he makes speeches about Fascism's heroes.»

WHAT WE TAKE WITH THE BAYONET WE HOLD WITH THE SPADE



Certain definite military factors have been discussed in five previous articles in 'The Volunteer for Liberty' by the present author. However, it is felt that this time, the lessons indicated in the five articles have not yet been thoroughly grasped; and it is well, at this juncture, to repeat some part of the previous articles with certain modifications.

Our recent actions have been discussed at great length by many competent comrades, but it is necessary to understand basically, from a purely military point of view, the cause of the loss of Teruel, Belchite and other territory and positions.

These losses were due to a number of factors, such as terrific enemy superiority in war material (which is now surely being overcome), etc. We want to discuss two factors here. These are not the primary factors or causes, but merely two important ones:

1. What might be called 'the human factor', that is, the factor of undeveloped commanders of units in the defensive positions before the towns of Teruel and Belchite. In order to understand why this factor is important, it is necessary to outline some important qualities necessary for the successful command of units in battle. An able commander should be able to grasp a situation rapidly, he should be able to make simple and sound tactical plans and express them concisely, he should be able to use all the information he receives, he should have knowledge of the ground on which his unit is operating, he should have a good knowledge of how to dispose his troops and to the best possible utility, he should be daring and able to do everything without rashness, and finally, he should have determination and physical fitness. Two factors which have not been stated in this list but are present by inference are that the commander must be tactically competent and have a thorough knowledge of arms and the methods of their use, and must clearly understand the basic principles of war.

Without the factors stated above or with the lack of one or two major factors among these, the commander will obviously lack confidence. The lack of confidence will lead to indecision and indeci-

sion in battle is the most criminal of offences. It is better to make a decisive although incorrect decision and this is usually, by the way, less costly from both the strategic, military and human points of view, than indecision. The indecisive commander will withdraw troops from the position which appears to him an untenable one or one which may become untenable in the future when a decisive commander would have taken definite steps in advance to so construct his defences as to make the decision inevitable that he defend until overwhelming odds forced an orderly and well organised withdrawal in successive positions. The second object lesson of this recent defeat was already contained in a previous article discussing 'The organisation of the ground', and it is believed necessary to refer again to this article to recall to the minds of the readers the fact that all modern armies, including the Red Army of the Soviet Union are tending more and more toward defence and depth. This means that a Brigade would probably have a minimum of four defence lines organised in advance with, in every case, alternative, lines of defence already prepared for occupation in the event of the necessity of a withdrawal.

Troops forced to withdraw do not break and run. They withdraw step by step from one organised position to the next, thus making the enemy fight to gain new objectives until that moment comes when the attack loses its force and breaks down in sheer inertia. At this point a well organised defence which has previously taken into consideration notes on position for the organization of the ground and preparation of counter-attacks



can resume the offensive and if properly conducted with vigor, determination and careful preparation, can deal decisive blows, compelling the enemy to withdraw to his original position if the counter-attack is properly carried forward.

There is no copy-book formula for the organisation of a position. The article referring to this subject written before was intended merely as a guide. The study of fortifications as such is our greatest need at this moment and this statement is an over-simplification of facts. We are now at the stage of training of the Spanish Republican Army in which a greater understanding of the organisation and defence of the ground, both in the attack and in defence, is possible, and if the slogan with which this article is headed is understood in its proper relation

to both attack and defence, the problem of organisation terrain will not be of so great a difficulty.

Clearly, these two factors, first that officers must be trained and know their job thoroughly and secondly, that both officers and men know in all its detail the principal elements of the organisation of terrain, with these two important points carefully borne in mind and carried out in practice, 'No pasarán', can confidently become our slogan. But in order to fulfil this slogan, the slogan 'What the soldier takes with the bayonet he holds with the spade' must be thoroughly understood and put into practice. Officers who do not understand the significance of this slogan nor its practical applications should be considered criminally negligent in their duties.

Major Allan Johnson

CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

Throughout the whole of France during the past two weeks there have been numerous demonstrations demanding the raising of the blockade of the Spanish Republic:

LYONS: Many thousands of Socialists, Communists, Radicals and Trade Unionists, at a meeting called by the Lyons-Valence Committee of Aid, stressed the demand for the abolition of Non-Intervention. Great enthusiasm greeted the decision to send a telegram to Leon Blum and Paul Bancourt. The slogan of the meeting was CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

NARBONNE: 1,500 people demonstrated. Their slogans were: OPEN THE FRONTIER! CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

CALAIS: Workers demonstrated for the OPENING OF THE FRONTIER.

LE HAVRE: Harbor workers demonstrated. Again, the slogan was CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

CANNES: 600 demonstrated for aid to Spain.

TOULOUSE: 3,000 in great demonstration.

BORDEAUX: After a meeting organized by the Peoples Front, several thousand demonstrated through the streets, demanding the OPENING OF THE FRONTIER.

LE BOURGET AIR PORT: Workers and office staff of this great air port issued a statement demanding the OPENING OF THE FRONTIER.

AUBERVILLIERS: 5,000 demonstrated at the call of the Trade Union Committee of Action.

NICE: 3,500 attend meeting in favor of Republican Spain.

BIERIOT AIRCRAFT WORKS: Workers declared that they would give up the 40-hour week and work an hour's overtime per day IF THE GOVERNMENT WILL SEND MATERIAL TO REPUBLICAN SPAIN.

CLICHY: Outside the Citroen Works the workers demonstrated and sent a delegation to Leon Blum with a resolution DEMANDING THE NON-INTERVENTION POLICY.

COCUMBERS: 4,000 workers de-

monstrated at the factory gates.

LA ROCHELLE: Several thousands demand aid to Spain.

VAR: 1,000 young peasants demonstrated against the blockade.

..

Throughout France the movement for aid to Spain grows in impetus and intensity, under the slogans: Raise the Blockade, and Cannons and Planes for Spain!

THANKS and SALUD

to the

JOHN BROWN BATTERY

for the excellent and generous support given in the call for financial aid by the VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY. This battery, chiefly English-speaking, though few in numbers in comparison with other English-speaking units, has responded with the sum of 1000 pesetas.



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PLAZA ALTOZANO

ALBACETE

VOL. II — No. 16

BARCELONA

APRIL 13 — 1938

BARCELONA A Transformed City

Barcelona today is a transformed city.

The holiday spirit, which once prompted a visitor in the early days of the war to compare it with Coney Island, is gone. The whole city has hitched up its pants and tightened its belt.

The fascist threat to Catalonia has awakened the people to their danger — and it has also aroused them to action.

Every day, throughout the city, groups of young men apply regularly to the recruiting stations. Every union, every political organization, has called for volunteers to join up. The slogan is:

«Stem the fascist tide, and turn their advance into a decisive defeat!»

You see posters, small leaflets in the streets. Everyone reads them. They tell you:

«Is there a soldier in your home who hasn't yet joined up? Why hasn't he?»

«Is there an able-bodied man in your factory? Why isn't he at the front?»

«How many men are there on your block (neighborhood, organization, club) who can bear arms against fascism? Make them join up!»

«We want no shirkers! All able-bodied men to the front!»

Great signs are hung from house to house across the wide and the narrow streets. They ask the same questions, and point to the same answers.

In the factories, the women cry out that they too can carry arms. When told that it is for the men, they go from machine to machine, telling the men to join up, telling them what their duty is. Few men can resist their pleading — and fewer still can withstand their scorn against the shirkers.

The women, the youth, the men of all parties and trade unions, speak at lightning street meetings. They have one keynote:

«EVERY ABLE BODIED MAN TO THE DEFENSE OF HIS COUNTRY. EVERY MAN TO THE FRONT!»

And while the recruiting goes on, the factories hum, production is speeded. The same is true of all Catalonia today. As in Madrid more than a year ago, the slogan is finding its way into the hearts and marrow and bone of the Catalonian people: **THEY SHALL NOT PASS!**

DESPERTAR

Por César Orquín (Lincoln Battalion)

Una mañana fría del mes de enero... Caía la nieve, cuyos finos y blanquitos copos, caaban a nuestros soldados al derretirse sobre sus hombros.

Tranquilidad... Sólo de vez en cuando se oía el lejano tronar del cañón, dirigido a las segundas líneas; o uno que otro disparo, hecho contra algún descuidado que había asomado la cabeza más de lo debido.

Silencio... El seco tableteo de una ametralladora lo interrumpe con sus carajadas frías y sardónicas, que acompañan a las ráfagas portadoras del trágico mensaje de muerte.

Una trinchera... en un recodo, y disfrutando del pobre sol, cuyos rayos apenas si podían filtrarse a través de los densos nubarrones que cubrían la celeste bóveda, se hallan tres milicianos; cada uno tiene en sus manos el portavoz de su partido y organización.



Comenta uno; contesta otro; interpele el tercero. Del comentario pasan a la conversación animada; de ésta a la acalorada discusión.

Un socialista, un comunista y un anarquista. Tres hombres que defienden una causa, y que descuidan su misión por las diferencias de ideología. Ha llegado la discusión a un punto álgido; se han lanzado insultos, amenazas.

De pronto, en la lejanía, se oye el rónico disparo del cañón enemigo. Silba el obús estridente sobre sus cabezas, yendo a explotar a corta distancia de ellos, adornando

su ensordecedor ruido con el zumbo de la metralla, y formando un surtidor de polvo y humo.

Los tres milicianos se sacuden la tierra que les cayó encima, y que fué el único perjuicio que aquella explosión les produjo.

Se disponían a reanudar su interrumpida discusión, y quién sabe si, a causa de su ceguera, llegasen a llevar a cabo las amenazas profetizadas, cuando la voz de un soldado enemigo les hace detenerse.

«¡Rojos! — dijo la lejana voz —. ¿Os ha gustado el "popinazo"?»

Luego, silencio. Los tres hombres cambiaron sus miradas entre sí. ¡Habían comprendido!

Pensaron que aquel obús no tenía como objetivo determinado carnal. ¡Iba disparando contra el enemigo unido. Aquella palabra, «Rojos», pronunciada por la voz del parapeto enemigo, les dió a entender que eran hermanos; los tres eran obreros; eran proletarios...

Sentados, interrumpido el sublime silencio que los rodeaba por los disparos que a intervalos irregulares se oían, trazaron con las puntas de sus bayonetas sobre la tenue y blanca capa de nieve que cubría el suelo de la trinchera, cada uno una letra. ¡El bello anagrama, estandar-te de nuestra lucha! ¡U. H. P.!

TWO FARMERS KILLED SAVING ALL CATTLE FOR LOYALIST SPAIN

The Ministry of Agriculture recently issued a note praising the heroic action of two employees of the General Administration of Livestock — Francisco San José Revuelta and Manuel Iglesias.

These two men went right up to the firing line during the recent retreat on the Aragon front in order to direct the work of evacuating the livestock. After all the livestock had been safely removed, they both fell victims to fascist bullets.



One of Spain's many Loyal workers. It was men like him who performed the deed referred to in the story directly above.

THE SINKING OF THE BALEARES ON MARCH 6

The Chief Command of the Republican Fleet directed the naval battle which took place in the early morning of March 6, 70 miles from Cabo Palos, from the cruiser which is symbolically named *Libertad*. Credit for this splendid Republican victory is due don Luis G. de Ubieta, the Commander of the fleet, and his General Staff.

Late Saturday night, March 3, the cruisers *Libertad* and *Méndez Núñez* and two small fleets of destroyers headed out toward sea. At 12:40, when the two cruisers and the fleet of destroyers were some 55 miles to the south east of the island of Ibiza, the watch on the *Libertad* sighted three fascist ships, at a distance of 3,000 meters, headed in the opposite direction. The direction lights of the first two boats were lighted.

The destroyer *Sánchez Barcaytegui* launched two torpedoes. Since the ships were communicating by lighted signals, in the code of our Navy, they were obviously fascist ships. They were giving the

the order to prepare for action.

Both fleets continued on their way, and nothing more happened for a while. Then the Republican command gave the order, by telephone, to prepare for action, and every one jumped to his post.

The next order from the *Libertad* was to change direction, and the ships were arranged in formation for battle. The destroyers *Sánchez Barcaytegui*, *Antequera*, and *Le-panto* in a straight-line formation protected the *Libertad* and the *Méndez Núñez* to port; the destroyers *Gravina* and *Lazaga* to starboard.

About two in the morning, when the Loyalist fleet was some 70 miles from Cabo Palos, the fascist ships were sighted again on the high sea, in the following order: the *Baleares*, *Canarias*, and then the *Cervera*. The engine lights of the *Baleares* gave the signal to put on speed, the intention being to cross the Republican line to port. But this skilful manoeuvre did not prove of great value, for

the rebel command committed the serious tactical error of passing our first line of destroyers, which were protecting the cruisers *Libertad* and *Méndez Núñez* on the side to port, at a distance of less than 2,000 meters. Intense artillery fire from the Republican cruisers repelled the aggression. Rockets lighted the bridges of the ships. The Republican destroyers did not break their formation.

The artillery fire ceased soon. The first torpedoes whizzed by. In loading the new shell-guns the men counted seconds and thirds of seconds. About four minutes later there was an enormous explosion. The Republican artillery was silenced by the order to stop firing. The torpedoes of the destroyers had made their hit. Following the explosion a great blaze illuminated the scene. The fascist cruiser *Almirante Cervera* could be seen near the burning ship, its silhouette cutting off some of the flames from view. The flag ship *Canarias* sailed away at full speed.

MORNING COMES...

Morning comes with another day,
And you hear the whole world say:
«I wonder what's happening in old Spain?
«I wonder if this battle is in vain?»

The world must know it's a battle for Freedom
And an end to Fascism, troublesome.
And the workers who fight with all their might
Will gain a victory for all that's right.

Lives are sacrificed for this cause
With no opportunity for to pause;
All eyes are set, sight to the Front
And guns a-roaring with a grunt.

It's a grunt of freedom these guns roar,
With a hit right into fascism's core —
Seeking for victory, not for Spain alone,
But victory for all the folks back home.

Spain must be aided in this fight
To bury fascism out of sight.
Ye workers of the world must aid
For in the future, ye will be repaid!

JIMMIE MacLEAN

"LUCKY STRIKES"

(Por Germán Hernández
Antón, Jefe del Servicio
de Informaciones.)

"Golpe de suerte" se llamaría si fuera traducido al castellano el nombre del tabaco americano que hasta hace poco, desconocíamos todos los trabajadores españoles, debido a que nuestros recursos económicos no nos permitían el lujo de saborear este aromático tabaco, y teníamos que conformarnos con la popular cajetilla de a real — que para nuestros pulmones en muchas ocasiones tenía peores efectos que el cloro—. Y ha sido preciso la fraternidad y solidaridad internacional —que entre los trabajadores del mundo entero despertó la sublevación de los que en España fumaban "Luquis"—, para que cesara de ser el tabaco americano o sus rivales, Camels o Habano, el tradicional tabaco de cabaret o tertulia, y pasara a ser TABACO POPULAR.

Hasta el 19 de julio, en España el tabaco, que es objeto de mi tema, sólo lo fumaban artistas prostituidas, militares de uniforme, vicio y casta; señoritos con títulos, inculcos y en fermizos, y los grandes señores de las finanzas y la política. En una palabra: sólo lo fumaba la alta aristocracia.

Si en aquella época, el "Luqui" hubiera sido un aliado del pueblo y hubiese hablado, cuántas cosas no hubiera dicho. Escudriñando como escudriñaba los más escondidos recovecos del pecho de los que el 19 de julio se suicidaron al sublevarse. Qué de cosas no hubiera dicho de aquella serie de recíprocas zancadillas e intrigas hipócritamente disimuladas de las tertulias donde se reunían 50 para volcar un ministerio que sólo tenía 15 carteras. También nos hubiese hablado de los fantásticos cálculos que se haría don Alejandro Lerroux con su extraperlo; y sobre todo nos hubiera dicho los miles de españoles que pensaban asesinar los militares traidores y sus naturales aliados: clero y terratenientes. Aún más, puede que si todavía hablaran, nos dijeran lo que se trama

en la atmósfera viciada por el humo de este tabaco y del opio, los vapores del champagne y las enajenaciones de la cocaína, en algunos señoriales edificios de Burgos y Salamanca —Roma-Berlin— y fuera lo suficiente para que en nuestra retaguardia, sin tanto cacarearla, se hiciera la unidad.

Pero, si el "Luqui" hablara, no sólo nos contaría cosas siniestras, capaces de hacer miella en el optimismo de los débiles antifascistas y poner en guardia a los más fuertes, no; ya que el que en la España leal se fuma tiene la sagrada misión de proclamar muy alto de que las palabras de Marx: PROLETARIOS DE TODOS LOS PAISES UNIDOS, han sido oídas y escuchadas por todos los trabajadores del Universo: es la prueba de la fraternal solidaridad de pueblos de diferente lengua y separados por los mares, que, viendo el peligro que se cierne sobre el mundo se preparan a no ser sorprendidos como lo fuimos en España. Es comprado con la perra gorda que se cotiza cada trabajador —y que a lo mejor les cuesta el negarle el cine o una golosina a su hijo— a sabiendas de que negarle un mimo hoy es asegurarle un mañana feliz. ¿Qué transformación ha sufrido en España la misión del tabaco "Luqui"! De su triste celebridad, con nuestra guerra ha pasado a ser popular, y a través de la cortina que

BARCELONA THRILLED BY AIR DEMONSTRATION

A few of our new air squadrons flew over Barcelona on Saturday, April 9 and thrilled the population for almost an hour. Thousands, gathered in the streets, on the house-tops, balconies and from windows, cheered loudly and applauded enthusiastically. Others waved their hats or handkerchiefs in wild delight. The squadrons, consisting of heavy bombers, bi-planes, and chasers, speeded at a low altitude in perfect formation.

BRITISH YOUTH PLEDGE TO REDOUBLE EFFORTS TO GET ARMS FOR SPAIN

A resolution addressed «To the Youth of Spain» by the Tenth National Conference of the Young Communist League of Great Britain pledges «to redouble our efforts in the fight to get arms for your people.» The entire resolution, which will be acted upon at the conference on April 16, 17 and 18, follows:

This 10th National Conference of the Young Communist League sends its warmest fraternal greetings to you and through you to the youth of Spain in your heroic struggle against Fascism.

We record with regret the passing of many of your bravest sons on the battlefields of Spain.

While we deeply regret your loss, which is also ours, at the same time a deep feeling of pride wells up within us that we belong to an international association of youth that produces such heroes. We are proud to be with you in your glorious struggle to save Spain from Fascism.

We send our heartiest congratulations to you on the magnificent part you have played in building up the mighty invincible Republican Army and the unity of the whole of the Youth of Spain. We declare that this mighty army of the people, combined with the unity you have forged on the battlefields of Spain, are the guarantees that final victory for the forces of democracy over Fascism is assured.

«SAVE SPAIN — SAVE PEACE». This is the key-note of all our activity to assist your people.

We pledge ourselves to redou-

produce una bocanada de humo de este tabaco podemos ver: que en la lucha que sostenemos contra el fascismo mundial, no estamos solos: que la solidaridad internacional es un hecho; y la fraternidad universal, una realidad. En estas condiciones, con toda seguridad, con los pulmones llenos de humo de tabaco Lucky, podremos gritar: "No pasarán" "okey", ¡pasaremos!

ble our efforts in the fight to get arms for your people. To intensify our work to send food, milk and medical supplies, to strengthen still further our support for the glorious international Brigade; to work as never before to bring down the hated British National Government, friend of Fascism.

The forces of the democratic youth throughout the world are with you in your magnificent struggle.

We confidently declare that the mighty Republican Army, the backbone of which is formed by the members of the United Socialist Youth, backed up by the progressive people throughout the World will guarantee that the final victory is yours and that Spain becomes the «DEATH-BED OF FASCISM».

JOHN LITTLE ARRIVES

(Continued from page 1)

Fortunately the auto got through without mishap. But the driver was so knocked out by the ordeal that he suggested they sleep on the road that night. Everyone, outside of the driver, was in a hurry to get back — and John solved the problem by volunteering to take the wheel, which he did, bringing the party back at 4 a. m.

«The American people are not in any way losing track of what is happening here in Spain», John is firm in declaring. «On the contrary, they are working harder than they ever have worked to bring about a change in favor of the Spanish people. The American people have come to the realization that if fascism is to be defeated, the first place where it must be defeated is in its invasion of Spain.»

In France too, he believes, the growth of popular sentiment for Spain is revealed in such slogans as the French people have recently used in their countrywide demonstrations: Cannons and Planes for Spain!



LETTERS FROM HOME

**A Volunteer's Mother
Writes from the U. S.**

Dearest son — Yesterday, when I came home, there was a letter from you to S., written on Christmas Day.

Your joy over the victory of Teruel is great and inspiring — it is the kind of joy one feels when one knows what he is fighting for. Of course I realize how you must feel now after giving up Teruel and Belchite — I feel just as badly. What I do want to tell you is this:

In 1905, we were fighting in the former Russia, fighting on barricades. People were killed — and we won a constitution — and that did not last long. It all ended with massacres and reactionary punishments against those who were in the fight. But we who fought at that time knew, and were convinced, that the fight was a just one, and therefore we were not disheartened or disappointed. On the contrary we were resolved to carry on the fight to a finish... And now you see that instead of a bloody Russia (as it was under the Czar) the Soviet Union among all oppressed countries stands proud and free.

The same will be the case with the fight against fascism in Spain and the rest of the world. Chin up, my boy, and tell this to all the rest of the fighters with you! Much love to you and your comrades.

Your loving mother,

Miniature Madrid in England

By the way, the collection for Spain you enquire about at Xmas realised 6,123 pounds I wish we could do it every week, but the colliery manager does not allow us to stand on his premises, and we have to get a police permit to stand in the street... All told we have collected nearly 10 Pds. It's not a record by any means, but anyway it's a nail in Franco's coffin...

Labour is really on the move here. There must have been millions of resolutions sent in by rank and file organisations to Labour Headquarters demanding some real action on behalf of loyalist Spain...

The Harworth men... had a taste of what fascism means in England... Harworth is a mining town 12 miles from here, and I went over several times during the struggle, it was like a miniature Madrid. One night the police raided a dance hall full of miners with the excuse that they were going to arrest one of the men. It was all a big bluff to cause a fight, they succeeded in separating the women from the men and then there was a battle royal. The police had reinforcements outside armed with clubs and the miners fought with the furniture, which they tore to pieces. The miners' wives went to the Cinema Hall to get reinforced.



ments for their men, but the police had locked the people inside, and of course the police won, but they had some casualties.

I went over the next day and the place was like an armed camp and the brutality of the police had been terrible. It was like the Spanish militia versus Franco's crack troops in the early days of the war.

(from a member of the Labour Party in a mining district of England).

They're with us back home.

I want you and the other boys to know that we are with you a hundred per cent, so keep up your spirit.

(from a girl-friend in New York).

The people of this country are anti-fascist all right, I'm sure. Any chance remark to people very varied walks of life that I have made about fascism show that they hate it.

(from a mother in England).

Nazis on the screen

Last week I saw the Anti-Nazi film featured in the 'March of Time'. It was so brutal and terrifying that it left me sick, grim and determined to punch the head off of a fascist who applauded vociferously in front of me while I hissed and booed in violent counterpoint against this Italian heel. I couldn't help but provoke a challenge, which made him sneak out of the theatre so shamefully, due to the tremendous gathering of Antifascists who showed their resentment to Nazi methods by a profound silence.

(from a friend in the States).

AVION!

We sat around, resting, camped on the roadside. It was just after the food had come up, and all of us, scattered over the wide meadow and along the side of the hill, were digging furiously into our stew of rice and onions, and the almost invisible flakes of carne.

Most of us had barely swallowed our first mouthful when the whistle blew — the fascist avion was coming over. We spread out, ducked behind rocks, lay flat against the terrace-stones, stretched out under clumps of stunted pines against the steep slope of the hill. In a minute — but it seemed longer — our anti-aircraft opened up from all directions. We watched the planes in the sky, high up. Evidently they weren't after us this time. After the crack of our anti-air guns the shells whistled through the air, and after a second we saw the white puff of smoke appear where the shell burst. In a few minutes there were forty-four white puffs in the sky — we counted all of them — but the three black planes seemed to sail on serenely, untouched. We cursed the planes and the anti-air and the kitchen, which had brought the mess up at such a time.

Soon they were gone from sight, and the whistle blew again, and we dipped our tin spoons into the rice-stew again. It was cold, but tasted better than the first mouthful.

Before we were through eating the avion was up again. This time six of them, and soon we saw six more following, and then a tail-group of three. Again they passed us by, again our anti-air opened up, again they escaped. But this time we saw them shoot downward behind the nearest hill, heard their machine-guns going full-blast. Strafing the road, we thought. Only afterward we found out they were strafing the people, the streets and houses in Gandesa. They were sore; they had dropped their bombs, but had evidently miscalculated. Most of the eggs had landed in the empty football field. So they strafed the town, and its women and kids.

They came over about a dozen times that day — only twice did they strafe our meadow, our road, our side of the hill. No bombs, only their machine guns spitting. We were lucky. One casualty — our third assistant-cook got one in his shoulder. The other time, a group of us were caught on the road as they swooped low. We ducked into a culvert, and our only mishap came when a splinter of rock, chipped by their strafing, caught me at the bridge of my

nose. A speck of blood, quickly wiped away, and then I let it clot. In a few days the scab was gone, and I was congratulated: 'You're still good enough for Hollywood when you get back', a Frenchman told me. I answered with their most popular word, 'Merde!'

A hell of a way to treat men at rest, we thought. But our biggest scare came a few days later. We were marching down the road, maybe thirty kilometers from our first camping ground — those of us who were left. We were dog-tired — no rest for three days. The real fireworks had begun three nights ago.

Well, we marched, or straggled along the road, when we first heard the roar. Then they came over the hill — twenty, thirty, forty — seventy of them. We couldn't start running fast enough. Those on the left side of the road were lucky: the fields sloped down and away. On our side rose miniature dirt-and-rock cliffs, twenty feet high. 'Here's where we really get it', we thought.

Then we saw the peasant leading his mattress-laden burro. He was walking along calmly. We shouted to him to run — are you dead? are you blind? He turned his eyes upward, and continued leading his animal calmly. He sniled a little, put his opened hand to his mouth, and shouted one word:

'Nuestra!!'

We locked again. Sure enough, they were ours.

Seventy of them!!

'There's many more over there' the peasant shouted, pointing beyond the nearest hill.

We breathed a sigh of relief, all of us. If the plane motors hadn't been overhead you could have heard that great collective exhaling of breath and wondered what it was.

Our own avion had arrived!!

We reformed our ranks, and marched — not straggled — up the hot road.

W. T.

with troops disguised as volunteers, but also with a tremendous quantity of war material which increases a hundredfold the damage and injury to our independence. In the international robbery organised by fascism it is not Spain's turn to be the booty. They are attacking Spain with the same greed with which they attacked Ethiopia and later Austria. With equal savagery they will tomorrow attack other weak countries in the hope that the turn of the more powerful countries will come. Spain is merely an episode in what is being prepared, and a foretaste of what threatens the world in the future.

But Spain can cease to be an episode and can be made to represent the definite barrier which will put a stop once and for all to this criminal aggression. All the lives of Spanish democrats are subordinated to this goal. There is not a single Spaniard who will not proudly offer his life for the peace of Europe and of the whole world. Happen what may and however difficult the situation may become for us, we are determined to fight. Our responsibility obliges us to and we are encouraged in our struggle by the people of England, to whom we express our deepest gratitude.

PEOPLES FRONT THANKS BRITISH PEOPLE

(continued from Page 2)

We do not wish to say a single word regarding the difference of understanding between the people of England and their Government. On this point our respect is absolute, and it is enough for us that the difference exists. Time will tell who understood this problem with most foresight. If we are to say anything we can say, because it is permissible, that we are more interested in not disappointing the English people than in not disappointing their Government.

The people of England place their trust in our struggle and long for our victory. And we shall fight until we achieve that victory which is so indispensable for us, so advantageous for the permanent interests of England and so necessary for the peace of the world.

We are now undergoing a very grave stage in the fight for our country. Italy and Germany are attempting to defeat us in a decisive manner and have launched an unmasked attack to crush us. They are not only attacking us



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REPUBLIC READY TO MEET ALL WAR NEEDS SAYS NEGRIN IN RADIO TALK

(The following is the radio speech delivered by Dr. Juan Negrin, Prime Minister of the Spanish Republic, on April 16, 1938).

Spaniards:

The Government, in obedience to its moral doctrine not to hide the truth, however bitter it may be, addresses the country and informs it that, by a dramatic push, the invaders who are destroying our fatherland — Italians, Moor, and Germans — have succeeded in reaching the Mediterranean.

The Government is therefore going to use me as its mouthpiece to explain to the people the military situation, to analyse its causes and to indicate the duties which this situation imposes on all Spaniards.

Of the causes which have given rise to this situation, those which depend on us are being corrected with the speed and decision which the circumstances demand. Because I must not hide from the people — to do so would be unjust and therefore shameful — the part which we must play at the present stage. We have not acted in the rear with the rhythm which the situation demanded. Months, weeks, days, and hours have been lost at moments when a minute is equivalent to the destiny of years. Today when rhythm and firmness in the adoption of opportune measures have risen to the level of our desire to win the war, I can and must declare to the Spanish people that slowness has been our worst enemy.

OUR OPPONENTS KNOW THAT TIME IS AGAINST THEM

What is the situation now?
The credence with which the Spanish people receive my words entitles me to believe

that the analysis I am about to make of the position of our fronts will serve even more to strengthen the will to make our rear and our Army execute the orders they receive without vacillation.

For more than a month the enemy has been carrying out a violent offensive on the Eastern front, an offensive which has received more backing abroad than any other, an offensive characterized principally, as I pointed out in a former speech, by the haste which is weighing upon our opponents, because they know that time is against them.

In the first moments the attacks of the Italian forces and Moorish hordes, helped by German technicians and abundant German and Italian war material, broke our fronts. Had it not been for the Spanish habit of delaying every urgent task until the critical moment, the effects of the enemy attack, as far as the territory they gained is concerned, might perhaps have been less. But the fact is that these first results encouraged the enemies of Spain. A large part of the international press, with very pious intentions, began to sound the funeral march of the Republic and of the Spanish people.

THE ORDER TO RESIST

Our position was, undoubtedly, extremely grave, but the Government gave the order: resist. I appealed to the people to mobilize all their energies. And with marvellous heroism, with an enthusiasm which can be felt only in Spain, our Army resisted, barred the way of the enemy, and energetically counter-attacked in various sectors. In Catalonia, as was bound to happen, the glorious exploit of immortal Madrid was repeated. It was repeated



even in the grotesque details of the foreign press which once announced the fall of Madrid and now, that is, two weeks ago announced the entry of the Italian troops into Tortosa.

The enemy has been held back on the Tortosa front; it has been held back on the bank of the River Segre. Their aims have been frustrated precisely in those sectors where they had the greatest interest in achieving their objectives. They wanted to reach Barcelona within a space of two weeks. But on Catalan soil they have met with an unbreakable human wall. The Italian press and the press of the invaders have had to desist from their cries of triumph to the point of confessing that our soldiers, the Spanish soldiers, are defending inch by inch with extraordinary enthusiasm the beloved soil of their fatherland.

This has been possible as a result of the enthusiasm and energy with which the people have responded to the appeal of their Government. And in this space of twenty days elements have been brought together which, when they are still better employed, will permit us to overcome all difficulties and to prepare the way for our victory.

MANY OF OUR RESOURCES ARE STILL UNUSED

After being held up in their advance on Catalonia, the enemy has succeeded in attaining objectives farther south, the gravity of which must not be concealed. But they will not hold them for long. We have not yet brought into full play all our inexhaustible resources, resources which have so far enabled us to withstand the offensive and even to counter-attack in places where the enemy was most anxious to advance.

The Government is consecrating itself to this task with the greatest energy, so as to be able to use all its resources rapidly and efficiently. The situation is, in my opinion, less grave than it was two weeks. We have today more material than at the beginning of the offensive, and we shall have still more. Our Army, the Army which was able to hold up the Italian divisions and Moorish forces on Catalan soil at a moment when they considered themselves victorious, can and will be extraordinarily improved both in quality and forces.

With faith in victory, with enthusiasm and discipline, we shall free the lands which have just been taken from us by the invaders in the space of some days or weeks, and open the path of the rest of Spain to our Army, the Army of Independence.

Let all our soldiers take as a stimulus and as an example the heroic conduct of those who fought at Lerida and on the fronts of the much coveted Tortosa. All the units of our Army must be shock forces. Before them

the enemies of our fatherland shall be dawn-trodden and utterly destroyed.

THE COMPLETE AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In the political field the military situation imposes duties on all of us, which cannot be set aside. The Government of the Republic is the Government of all Spain and will exercise its authority, as hitherto, on all territory which is not held by the invader. Today the Government needs more support than ever; it must be obeyed with greater discipline than ever. Its voice, which is the voice of all Spaniards, must be responded to with immediate action.

All activities therefore must revolve exclusively around the Government or around the authority delegated by it. In the face of all the slanders and lies, our people are giving a magnificent example to all the people, of the world. Conscious of the role which history has allotted them, they are fulfilling it as Spaniards have always been able to fulfil it at decisive moments. Nobody has been able to hide the truth. Foreigners visiting us have been able to see for themselves that Spain has never had a Government which could count on the support of the people to such an extent as this Government can. Never was there such order in our



rear as now exists. Never did the Army display such heroism as at the present time when it is confronted by the traitors within and by the Armies of two countries which used blackmail, but whose threat is destined to fail on Spanish soil.

These qualities — self-denial, discipline, and obedience to the Government — must be further augmented. Thus equipped, we shall face the allies of the enemy in our rear, on whom our opponents are counting. Let no one be surprised by any manoeuvres they may try. The Government is one and undivided. To try to substitute or set up other bodies similar to it would only produce disturbances which would last only until the Government became aware of them.

All support, all initiative, should be directed by the political parties and organisations to the People's Front, which today includes all sectors of loyal Spain. The watchword of the People's Front must be to aid the authorities, to afford them collaboration, and to guarantee them a maximum loyalty in all their activities.

Our experiences cause us to issue a warning in advance against the possible evil of the springing up of unauthorised local or regional authorities. Our conviction that all division of authority must be opposed acquires greater force in the case of Catalonia in view of the desire to conquer, the enthu-

siasm for the fight, and the high conception of responsibility among all her authorities, from the Honorable President Luis Companys to the lowest of administrative civil servants. For this might lead to the possibility of a difference of opinion arising in political leadership. Or to put it more clearly, we do not wish a difference to arise, for the interest of the Catalans in the war, which is the war of both of Catalonia and of Spain, has made them help the Government of the Republic in its task at all times.

Let no one therefore nowhere usurp the functions of the Government. I insist on this, because a manoeuvre by our enemies to make use of the generous impulses and the desire for disinterested collaboration on the part of many people in order to misguide them would create the greatest disturbance in our rear.

REPUBLICAN SPAIN IS PREPARED FOR ALL CONTINGENCES

The Government has already taken the necessary measures to supply Republican Spain with all necessities, both from the military and civil point of view. We lack neither food supplies nor war material. We are prepared then to fulfil the watchword that I gave you before: Resist now and then attack.

MILLIONS AFFECTED BY OUR RESISTANCE

I can tell you, Spaniards, that our resistance (to us no secret) has been a revelation to the world and a source of joy to millions of men. At the same time it has caused annoyance in certain circles; it has changed the opinions of large groups of people who, either through ignorance or because of their complicity with the invaders of Spain, had already given us up for dead.

As a result of our resistance the situation has now become clear to many people. Our tragedy has penetrated the intelligence of many, and today even those whose criminal incomprehension of their own interests made them obstinately blind to our legitimate right, now understand. At last they are believing what Spain has maintained for two years: that fascist announcements of victories they had not obtained, their tales smothering the Spanish people, were nothing but a reflection of the hurry of international fascism to be done with the problem of Spain and quickly to turn its thieving activities, with less risk against those other countries which really form its principal objective. But we have shown the world of what magnificent vitality we are possessed.

Our resistance has helped and will continue to help those in many parts to see clearly that in defending Spain the Army of the Republic is defending all democracies and destroying the plans of the inter-



GIANDANTE

national aggressors, the first phase of which is unfolding in our country. No one can hide from himself the fact that the conquest of Spain by international fascism is but the first stage in a plan to attack other countries with advantage and to cause democracies to disappear totally, plunging the world into an epoch of barbaric slavery.

THE FAILURE OF NON-INTERVENTION AND ITS INTERNATIONAL ORIGINS

Looking at the international situation I can say that if other countries had had the same faith as the Spanish people have in justice and in respecting treaties, they could have shortened our struggle. Europe would not now be looking at this spectacle of piracy on the seas, would not have tolerated the suppression of Austria, and other nations would not be threatened with strangulation.

Because of the policy of non-intervention, and believing in the right of the Spanish people to guide their own destiny, the Government of the Republic has had to organise resistance and create an Army. And this Army is prepared for the decisive days that must lead us to victory. We have only asked, and we go on asking today for that which they cannot deny us: the immediate cessation of the policy of non-intervention. Let us hope that the promoters of this false policy may think of the victims caused in these twenty-one months of international aggression; and to those insensitive to the pain of others, I present a single argument: Italian intervention has just been recognised explicitly by Great Britain. The Anglo-Italian agreement refers to the withdrawal of the Italian troops on our soil — to the shame of those who at the same time call themselves nationalists. Hitler himself proclaimed the German invasion of Spain to the world not many days ago.

At this moment the Government of the Spanish Republic most solemnly protests against the Anglo-Italian agreement. It signifies intervention in the Spanish question without taking into account the sacred interests of Spain and its people. And before the announcement of possible naval actions,

we remind the signatories of the Nyon agreements of their obligations. For we ourselves can contend with the fascist fleet; the sinking of the «Balears» off Cape Palos was proof of our efficacy and powers of attack.

THE GLORIOUS MISSION OF SPAIN TO SAVE CULTURE, CIVILIZATION AND LIBERTY

To our people, the Spanish people, history has assigned the task of saving culture, civilisation and freedom, and most of all freedom. We can say with pride that we are fulfilling that task magnificently. And we can say with equal pride that if it were not for the heroism of the Spaniards there would not be countries now discussing the miserable chaos of non-intervention, for they themselves would be given up to the task of driving the invaders from their own soil. Our resistance will not fail. On the contrary, it shall be increased. Each day it shall become more firm, more tenacious. Soon not only the volunteers, not only these called up in the levies, but the whole nation shall be in arms. And the world shall know once more how capable a people are the Spanish.

THE NEED TO MULTIPLY OUR ENERGIES A HUNDREDFOLD THAT OUR LAND SHALL ALWAYS BE OURS

Each one of our divisions must be a division that conquers; each man and woman in Spain must be an arduous fighter in the struggle for the independence of his country.

In the factories, barracks, trenches, and fields you must display your determination to resist. Your energies must be multiplied a hundred times more.

Only he who is against us can waiver at such a moment.

Spaniards: Our land shall always be ours.

Aviators, sailors, soldiers, officers, commissars, men and women of Spain.

Now more than ever defend your country with all your heart and strength.

Long live the Republic.

Long live Spain.





The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the International Brigades



Vol. II - No. 18

Barcelona, April 23 - 1938

NEGRIN MAKES SPECIAL APPEAL TO SOLDIERS OF PEOPLE'S ARMY

After the reorganization of the Cabinet of the Republic, Don Juan Negrin, Premier and National Defense Minister, addressed the People's Army with the following words:

«Spanish soldiers:

On assuming the supreme command of the Air, Sea and Land forces, which are making such sacrifices in order to attain victory, I am filled with pride at being a Spaniard.

My first words must express a deep and sincere gratitude to the principal forger of our People's Army, whose name shall be indelibly written in the pages of History, and a cordial greeting to the friend, whom I have had to succeed in so difficult a task because of the need to unify and concentrate the political and military direction of war in one hand.

I address myself, in the first place, to all the officers of the Army of the Republic. To those coming from the old Army, who are the genuine representatives of the democratic traditions of the old Spanish Infantry, and who deserve the love of the fatherland for the faithfulness they have shown to it. To those who have arisen from the Militia and who incarnate the invincible will of our people to fight for its liberties. The fervent collaboration between the two is a symbol of the unity of all Spaniards in the defence of the independence of our soil.

I address the war commissars and I remind them that they must put more self-sacrifice and more enthusiasm in their work than ever before and that by ex-celling themselves everyday they will set the most eloquent example to the Army.

I address myself to the soldiers and remind them that they must not leave the posts entrusted to their defense by the Fatherland until death. The law will be inexorable with those who do not carry out this sacred mandate. At the same time rewards and honors for all combatants who are worthy of them, from the first to the last, shall not be spared.

For success in my task I count upon your obedience as soldiers to the orders of the Fatherland in danger and upon the energy

(Continued on page 4)

GENERAL MIAJA

Commander-in-Chief of the Army in non-Catalan territory



At a cabinet meeting held on April 15, General Miaja was appointed the Commander-in-Chief of Armies of the Center, Levante, Extremadura and Andalucia.

The day after his appointment, the General made a radio address to the people and to the Army, in which he announced "The Armies which from today come under my orders will continue the conduct marked by the 6th of November. We shall continue the struggle like the good Spaniards of those days. Those of us who truly love our Country will know how to defend it."

Two days later, Jesús Hernández, ex-Minister of Public Instruction, was appointed Commissar-General of the Army in non-Catalan territory. (See page 2) He will work together with General Miaja to defend against fascism that sector of Loyalist Spain now under their complete command.

HABLA LISTER

El factor decisivo es el hombre

El heroico teniente coronel Enrique Lister ha estado en Barcelona unas horas, procedente del frente, y hemos querido conocer por él el sentimiento de nuestros combatientes.

«Por el frente de Aragón, donde yo he actuado, nos atacaban cuatro Divisiones: «Flechas Negras», «Flechas Azules», «23 de Marzo» y «Littorio», que sumaban unos ochenta mil hombres, con grandes elementos de aviación, artillería y tanques. La División «Littorio» estaba compuesta totalmente por italianos, «Las Flechas» estaban mezclados italianos y alemanes, pero todos los mandos desde cabo eran totalmente italianos. Yo creo que estas Divisiones habrán tenido unas veinticinco mil bajas, les hemos capturado bastantes prisioneros, sus tanques, ametralladoras y fusiles-ametralladoras.

El enemigo hizo en sus ataques un gran alarde de material de guerra, y desde que lo gramos contenerlo destruyó todos los pueblos de la retaguardia alejados del frente con su aviación, pero sin lograr avances y haciendo nosotros diversos contra-ataques que les han costado muchas bajas. En uno de estos ataques les cogimos dieciocho fusiles-ametralladoras italianas marca «Breda».

La infantería enemiga es muy mala y sólo avanza sobre las ruinas después que su aviación y artillería lo han destruido todo, pero huye a la desbandada cuando se encuentra con media docena de soldados nuestros con un fusil-ametralladora.

Yo creo que la ofensiva del enemigo ha acelerado la terminación de la guerra en nuestro favor, porque ha demostrado que hay una cantidad enorme de reservas en el pueblo que no habían sido puestas en movimiento, reservas en material y en hombres.

El hecho que hayan llegado al mar no quiere decir que hayan ganado la guerra, porque nosotros tenemos dentro del mismo país la cantidad de reservas necesarias, en hombres principalmente, mientras que ellos los han de traer del extranjero, y la guerra quien la gana es el hombre y no el material.

El material puede dar una o más victorias, pero incluso para sostener el terreno conquistado después de una devastación hace falta el elemento hombre. Aun quedando cortada y dividida nuestra España en dos partes, nos quedan suficientes recursos para seguir luchando.

VICTORIA
LIBERTAD
UNIDAD

FRENTE POPULAR

BRIGADE ACCEPTS PATRONAGE OF LOCAL FEDERATION OF U. G. T.

To the comrades of the Local Federation of the U. G. T. — Barcelona.

Esteemed comrades:

We receive with great joy your letter in which you communicate your decision to assume patronage of our Brigade.

We esteem completely the value of your gesture and accept it. It is further proof of the solidarity and the unity that exists between those who fight against fascism with a rifle in the trenches and those who, with the tool in hand, fight in the labor front.

Our Brigade is the genuine representation of the Popular Front of the world. In it are Brits, Americans, Canadians, Cubans, Argentines, Catalans, Spaniards: men of all races and colors, men of 26 nations, and among all of them there is only one thought, to destroy fascism. The unity among them is sealed by the blood sacrificed by many of our best comrades.

Our Brigade, which contributed its energies to the glorious days of the Popular Army at Jarama, Brunete, Belchite, Teruel and Segura de Baños, and which at this moment is fighting on the Aragon front, pledges that as long as a drop of blood runs in our veins we shall continue the struggle for the liberty and until complete liberation is won for the Catalan people. The day will arrive when with the unity and the POWER OF ALL, we shall annihilate totally from the territory of Spain all those who want to enslave us, of those who want to deny us of our liberties which we hold so dear.

In accordance with your wishes, this letter is accompanied by a Delegation from our Brigade. These comrades represent our entire unity. They are men who have distinguished themselves in the defense of the Catalan people. They carry our affection and solidarity to those who work in our rearward for the triumph over the invaders.

Those consisting this Delegation are comrades from many countries, such men as Mac Nash, British; Lloyd Thomas, American; Manuel Ramirez, Spanish; Bernard Wiebe, Canadian; and Rafael Romero, Political Delegate of the Brigade who heads the Delegation and represents our Commissariat.

You offer us material help. We also extend our services to you. Our Delegation bears instructions and will discuss the whole matter with you.

We invite and shall receive with all warmth a representation of your Federation to a celebration which will be held in commemoration of the advent of the Republic on April 14. In moments like these we shall be pleased to have with us a group who has taken such interest as to assume our patronage.

In hoping for your visit we send from your brothers of the 15th International Brigade to all directors and militants of the Local Federation our fraternal embraces.

Commissar of War of the 15th Brigade

(signed) JOHN GATES

WOMEN KEEP UP PRODUCTION AS MEN LEAVE SHOPS FOR FRONT

Señor Jiménez, Secretary of the Barcelona Federation of the U. G. T., speaking of the mobilization of trade union members, said that there is enormous enthusiasm among the workers. On April 1, the first trade union volunteers recruited as a result of the Government's appeal for men entered Army barracks. In the atmosphere that exists in the shops, it is expected that a number of volunteers will increase each day. The trade unions provide each volunteer with a blanket and boots, as well as the regulation Army dish, knife and fork.

Everything is being done in orderly way. When the men depart, their places are taken by women. The Institute for the

Training of Women (El Instituto de Reeducación de la Mujer) cooperates with the trade unions, and furnishes specialized factory and office workers. Women are registering in the Institute for training in the most necessary branches of work with great enthusiasm.

As a result of this, production has not decreased with the departure of the men for the front. Moreover, the workers in all factories and places of work have voluntarily lengthened their hours of work. There are factories where they now work 10 and 16 hours daily. Such endeavours are made possible only by the firm resolve of all Spaniards to win the war.

JESÚS HERNÁNDEZ

Commissar-General of all Armies in the Non-Catalan Zone

Jesús Hernández Tomás was born in Espinardo, in the Province of Murcia, on February 19, 1907. He came of a very humble origin. His parents were poor agricultural workers. When Jesus was two years old the family moved to Bilbao. Four years later his father died, and the family was left with no

of 1923. His youthfulness alone saved him from being condemned to six years of imprisonment.

From that time on Hernández played an increasingly important part in the political and trade union movement. He was arrested on many occasions. In 1927 he was jailed on the charge of conspiring against the state. He remained in prison in Madrid until a few months before the fall of the dictatorship. Following his release he returned to Bilbao, where he was made the victim of a boycott imposed on him by the employers in his trade. Blacklisted. He was obliged to find work in another trade, and he became a house painter.

He continued to occupy important posts in his trade union. In March, 1930, on the occasion of the International Day for the unemployed, he had to flee from Bilbao. But shortly afterwards he returned.

He was made a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party, and later became director of the central organ of the Party, "Mundo Obrero" (The Worker's World) in Madrid. In the summer of 1934 in the Madrid Stadium, the Communist Party organized a great unity meeting with the Socialist Party. Before a huge assemblage Hernández delivered one of his most notable addresses.

In February 1936 he was elected deputy for Cordova. In September 1936 he joined the Government as Minister of Education. In the Negri Government, formed in May, 1937, he assumed the portfolio of Health in addition to that of Education.

As Minister of Education and Health, Hernández had achieved a tremendous amount of work. He had spread education among thousands of people and had organized colonies for refugee children whom fascism has forced to flee from their homes. He had organized Workers' Institutes, Research Centers, as well as National Councils for Music and the Theatre, which have transformed these arts into real arts of the people.

Now he has been appointed Commissar-General of the armies of the Center, Levante, Extremadura and Andalucía. The Spanish people heralds his appointment with joy and assurance that fascism will never dominate Spain.



one to support it. Life became very hard, and at the age of seven Jesus was forced to go to work. He first sold candies in the movie theatres, and then began to work as a mason's assistant.

He began to think about the problems of the working class, and he came in contact with the trade union and political movement in Bilbao. At the age of twelve he entered a carriage workshop as a painter. He was only nine or ten when he entered the Socialist Youth organization in Bilbao and in 1921 he founded the Communist Youth in the same city. At the age of fourteen he was made secretary of the Carriage Workers trade union.

Hernández obtained his education with great difficulty, for he had learned only his first letters at school. He jumped from primary school to an extremely active political life. It was a period of great political education and ferment in Bilbao. From 1921 to 1923 Hernández underwent a great deal of political persecution. At the time of Primo de Rivera's coup d'état he was clapped into prison as a result of the part he had played in the mining strike of the summer



THESE WOMEN SAY: "Not a man in the rear who is fit for the front." Mobilization is going on at an unprecedented pace.

ESTAS MUJERES GRITAN: "No debe quedar un solo hombre en la retaguardia que sea apto para el frente." La movilización se efectúa rapidísimamente.



QUENCHING THEIR THIRST
Calmando la sed

"FIELD OF BONFIRES"

Story of a Doctor's Escape

Doc J. D. hadn't been with us very long before we went into the last action, and after it was over many of us thought he'd never be with us again. Captured? Here's what happened, in his own words.

—We were driving along the highway to A. in the ambulance. There were about six of us in the car, including some ambulance orderlies and S., who was acting as a runner. We approached a fork in the road. A few metres past this fork there was a hill. As we came up to it we could see machine-guns being set up, facing A., and a tank, and anti-tank guns. We stopped. Comrade S. went out to see whose troops they were. Immediately we recognised them as fascists—not Spanish, they were too tall—, and too blonde. They may have been Germans. Their blue uniforms were certainly not ours. They shouted to S. "Venga aquí!"—and little S. waved his arm and said "Espera un momento, nosotros volvemos" and he hopped on to the step of the motor and shouted in to us to move on.

At the chofor, streaked down the side road, someone took out a pistol—the machine-gun bullets and anti-tank shells passed us as if we were standing still. About four hundred metres down, the road ended at a house. We drove around the house and clambered out.

Bullets were trying to turn the corners of the house. We infiltrated across the field to some hills. Here I became separated from the others. I had to rest in a small gully. After about fifteen minutes they stopped sending bullets my way, but kept on filling the house by which the car was parked with anti-tanks. About half an hour later they stopped and I heard the car being driven away. I decided to wait there till dark. Late in the afternoon I saw in the distance a file of men walking along the railroad track. I decided I would follow that course in the night.

Aided by the bright moon, that night I made my way into A. I came in by way of an alley, and I noticed that a group of soldiers looked at me curiously as I passed. I walked by without hesitating.

The town seemed to be full of revelry, but at the same time preparations were being made for the next morning. I saw light from a bar—I went into the bar. There I found clusters of young Requettes—exceedingly young. I should say 17 or 18 years old. I didn't know exactly where I was. I walked over to the owner, whom I recognised as such by the customary black corduroy trousers, and said to him "What town is this?"

He told me where I was. And casually, with my back to the groups, I asked (just to be sure) "And what troops are these?"

"Fascists", he whispered.

The boys around the table were saying that our avion had given them hell today.

I stood there for a minute and then walked out, crossed the highway and walked in the shade of the olive trees. The fields were full of huge bonfires, around which lanky Moors were marching, dancing and yelling to the beat of their drums. Passing one of these groups I heard a familiar phrase—a Moor saying to a Spanish Requete "Mañana mas". The highway was filled with trucks and buses, beautiful buses, running on the road to C. I passed out of the noise and went far into the fields.

The next morning I met a campesino. I asked him where I could go. He told me to follow him, not too closely. We walked about a kilometre, and then he stopped. He pointed out a way for me. It was a difficult trail. Then when I was at the foot of a cliff I heard someone shout—"Compañero!"

At the top were two peasants. I walked up to them, and as I got to the top they said "Oh, our punishment for calling to you!" Down below was a patrol of six fascists.

They were debating which way to go when our avion appeared. They scattered, and we saw no more of them. The campesinos took me to their field house, fed me and hastened me on my way. At M. I found our forces. Was I happy!

—Glad to see you back, doc!

LA BRIGADA ACEPTA EL APADRINAMIENTO DE LA FEDERACIÓN LOCAL DE LA U. G. T.

A los camaradas de la Federación local de la U. G. T. — Barcelona

Estimados camaradas:

Recibimos con una gran alegría vuestra carta en la que nos comunicáis vuestra decisión de apadrinar nuestra Brigada.

Estimamos en todo la que vale vuestro gesto y lo aceptamos; es una prueba más de la solidaridad y de la unión que existe entre los que luchan contra el fascismo con un fusil en las trincheras y los que con la herramienta en la mano luchan en el frente de trabajo.

Nuestra Brigada es la genuina representación del Frente Popular del Mundo, en ella hay ingleses, Americanos, Canadienses, Cubanos, Argentinos, Catalanes, Españoles; hombres de todas las razas y colores, hombres de 26 naciones, en todos ellos no hay más que un solo pensamiento, desmoronar al fascismo; la unión entre ellos está sellada con la sangre derramada por muchos de nuestros mejores camaradas.

Nuestra Brigada, que contribuye con su esfuerzo a jornadas tan gloriosas para el Ejército Popular como Jarama, Brunete, Belchite, Teruel y Segura de Baños, y que en estos momentos lucha en el Frente de Aragón, promete que mientras en nuestras venas corra una gota de sangre, seguiremos luchando por la libertad del Pueblo Catalán, hasta su completa liberación y día llegará en que con la unión y el ESFUERZO DE TODOS, en el territorio de España aniquilaremos totalmente a los que quieren esclavizarnos, a los que quieren quitarnos las libertades que nos son tan caras.

De acuerdo con vuestros deseos, acompaña a esta carta una Delegación de esta Brigada, estos hombres llevan la representación de todos los que componemos la unidad, ellos son los hombres que más se han distinguido en la defensa del Pueblo Catalán y llevan hasta vosotros nuestro afecto, nuestra solidaridad a los que trabajáis en nuestra retaguardia por el triunfo sobre el invasor.

En esta Delegación van hombres de todos los países, hombres que como, Mac Nash, inglés; Lloyd Thomas, americano; Manuel Ramirez, español; Bernard Wiebe, canadiense, y Rafael Romero, delegado político de esta Brigada que va como Jefe de la Delegación y como representante de este Comisariado.

Nos ofrecéis vuestro apoyo material; nosotros también os lo ofrecemos, nuestra Delegación lleva instrucciones en este sentido, también os hablará y recogerá las vuestras.

Igualmente os decimos que recibiremos con todo cariño a otra representación de esa Federación que bien pudiera asistir a la fiesta que en nuestra unidad se celebrará el 14 de Abril como conmemoración del advenimiento de la República y en esos momentos de alegría para todo antifascista no debe faltar entre nosotros la representación de los que tan desinteresadamente nos apadrinan.

En espera de vuestra visita recibir todos vosotros, dirigentes y militantes de la Federación Local un fraternal abrazo de vuestros hermanos de la 15 Brigada Internacional.

por la 15 Brigada Internacional

El Comisario de Brigada

JOHN GIFFES

TODAS LAS UNIDADES DE LAS B. I. CELEBRAN EL ANIVERSARIO DE LA REPÚBLICA

En todos los batallones de reserva de las Brigadas Internacionales y en los batallones en línea, se ha festejado el aniversario de la República Española. En particular se ha saludado a los nuevos Reclutas y a los nuevos voluntarios que han ingresado en las Brigadas Internacionales.

En estas manifestaciones han hecho uso de la palabra Oficiales y Comisarios, así como el Comisario Inspector, Camarada Luigi Gallo. La Música de la Brigada

"Garibaldi" ha tocado los himnos Republicanos.

En todas estas reuniones se han enviado telegramas de saludo al Presidente de la República y al Presidente del Gobierno del Frente Popular.

Todos los voluntarios, antiguos y nuevos, han reafirmado una vez más su inquebrantable voluntad de luchar hasta la última gota de sangre para aplastar al fascismo y echar del suelo patrio al invasor extranjero.

ITALIANS FORCED TO VOLUNTEER SAYS PRISONER

Giovanni Frumeto, an Italian prisoner, comes from Porto Venere, near La Spezzia. He was a Sergeant Major of the «Flame-Throwing» Machine-Gun Section of the «Littorio» Division when he was taken prisoner on April 4th on the Gadesa-Tortosa Road.

Frumeto is 23 years old and belongs to the regular Italian Army. He does not belong to the fascist party, for members of the regular Army have the right to choose whether they wish to join the fascist party or not.

He declared that the senior officers in his barracks in Italy asked for volunteers to go and fight in Spain and made an appeal stating that Italy had recognized Franco as the only legitimate government of Spain since the Republicans were nothing but a mixture of Russians and Frenchmen who wished to convert Spain into a Soviet Republic, a thing which the Duce could not allow. The prisoner declared emphatically that when volunteers are called for any mission, men are compelled to offer themselves, otherwise they could be punished in one way or another.

Before he entered the army, Frumeto was studying to be a school teacher, but lack of economic means forced him to abandon that career and to enlist in the regular army.

In Italy fascist propaganda is being carried on against the «reds». But, since he has been a prisoner in their hands, Frumeto realizes to the full how false this propaganda really is.

An Italian newspaper entitled «El Legionario» is published daily in Saragossa. Formerly it was published in Salamanca. It is entirely in Italian and carries on a tremendous campaign of propaganda so as to prevent the «volunteers» from being taken prisoners or from deserting to the Government lines, by telling them of the torture methods employed by the «reds».

All the Italians fighting in Spain are well aware of the Italian defeat at Guadalajara. The officers declare that the Garibal-

di Division was composed of «men of evil living».

The Italian officers have forbidden everybody to speak to the Government prisoners.

The Italian forces never fly the Franco flag and when they enter battle they produce small banners with the colors of the Ita-



lian flag. Recently this was forbidden by the officers, but the Italian «volunteers» persist in wearing them.

The prisoner confirms the existence of Italian «carabinieri» in certain Spanish fascist cities, where

they do guard duty, while on the main roads there are control posts manned by Italian black-shirts. At all important railway stations there is an Italian control and there are large notices with the following inscription, «Comando Militari di stazione».

He confirms the fact that no Italian soldier can leave the Peninsula until the war is over.

The Phalangists and Reguets are despised by the Italians because they hate one another. When they talk to the legionaries the Phalangists say that the Reguets are traitors who want the King; and the Reguets say that the Phalangists display a lot of uniform and a lot of pistol, but that they never to any fighting.

ASSAULT GUARDS VOLUNTEER FOR THE FRONT

In an interview recently, Señor Paulino Gomez Saiz, the Minister of the Interior, stated that 100 lieutenants, 50 captains and a number of senior officers belonging to the Assault Guards had volunteered to go to the front. The fact that their officer had been accepted, the Minister declared, was the best proof of the fact that there is perfect order in the rear.



*Jefes, Comisarios y Soldados del Ejército Popular:
Todos los españoles se esfuerzan por superarse.
Superaos también vosotros.
Ni un palmo de tierra al extranjero.
Con disciplina rígida, con capacitación concienzuda, con
heroísmo inabitable, haced de nuestro ejército el Ejército victorioso de una España independiente, libre y feliz.*

*Dr. NEGRIN, Presidente
del Consejo de Ministros.*

Ediciones del Comité de las Brigadas Internacionales

NEGRIN APPEALS TO PEOPLE'S ARMY

(Continued from page 1).

of your heroism for the triumph of national independence which has been endangered by the treason of the rebels and the ambitions of two foreign powers.

I have been with you at the fronts and I know you. That is why I trust that, in compliance with the commands of Spain, you will resist firmly and valiantly. **Soldiers, my confidence is complete. Through the sacrifices of today**



which you are calmly facing, one can already discern the victories of tomorrow. Just as you are, I am deeply convinced that we are going to win. There is only one way of achieving victory: by resisting. And you shall resist! In obedience not only to the voice of a man, but to the voice of our country which is sadly and angrily clamoring for freedom which has been lost in rebel territory and which is now threatened in the loyalist zone. This land which bestowed upon us modesty and pride, vice and virtue; this land to which we were bound by our fathers and to which we offer our sons; this generous land which is invincible for those who try to humiliate it; this Fatherland of ours demands its full independence, its unlimited sovereignty and the right to enjoy its freedom. It demands it from you and from me, soldier. From you and from me, who are its sons. Let the weapon, which is given to us to defend it not be surrendered until death.

Officers, commissars and soldiers of the Air, Sea and Land forces: An unbreakable order: Resist until death! One slogan: Victory. One cry: Long live Spain!

TROUBLE FOR MOOCHO PINTER

By Andy



Another alarm?
What's up with you?

¡Alarma suena!
¡De la cama fuera!



Every five minutes
we're «standing to»

Cada cinco minutos preparados
hay que estar,
en caso de alarma tal.



One of these days
I'll sleep right thru!

¡En la próxima alarma,
me quedaré en la cama!



HIT!...
(Trouble for Moocho Pinter).

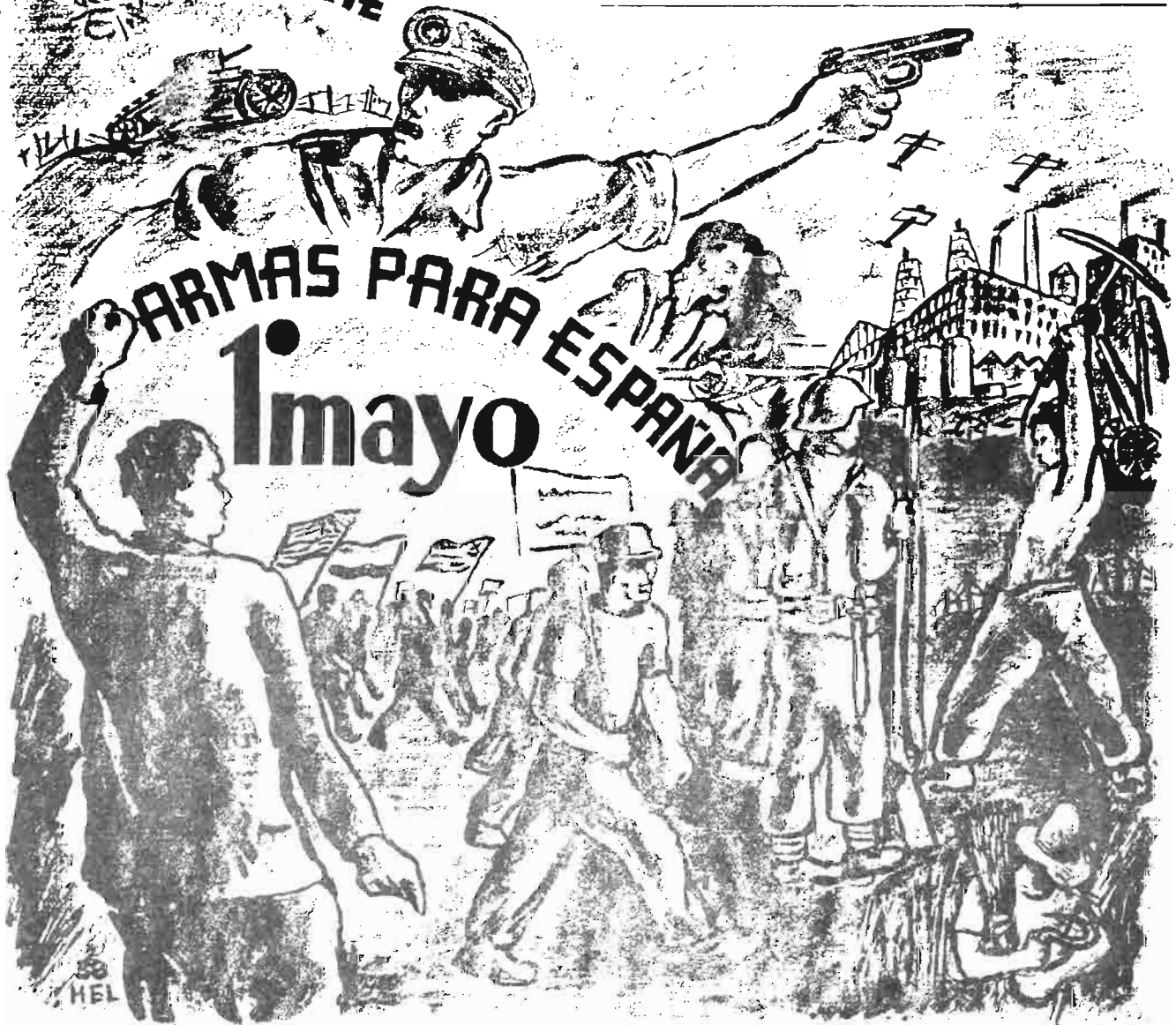
Y por hacer lo que dije,
las consecuencias maldijo.
(Desgracias de un «mucho pinta».)

the VOLUNTEER for LIBERTY

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FORTIFICAR • RESISTIR • VENCER
EL VOLUNTARIO DE LA LIBERTAD
NÚMERO DE LA XV BRIGADA INTERNACIONAL

DORAN-FIRST TO ADVANCE -LAST TO RETREAT

By JOHN GATES, Commissar 15th Brigade



DAVE DORAN

Doran was a member of that great body of commissars whose names are inextricably linked with the history of the Spanish People's Army—of the great tradition of commissars who were the first to advance, the last to retreat.

One cannot speak of the transformation of the 15th Brigade into a disciplined regular army unit without speaking of Doran. Today we accept the discipline and forms of the regular army as a matter of course, but veterans of the 15th Brigade remember when it was considered "bourgeois" to salute an officer, officers condescended to wear their stripes, and uniforms, morning parade, orders of the day, military instruction was not considered necessary, etc. Lt.-Col. Copic in his article deals quite extensively with the valuable assistance Doran gave him in the successful struggle to militarize the Brigade, so I shall say no more about it.

Doran also made great contributions towards strengthening the bonds of unity between the Spanish and International comrades. He fought and exposed any manifestation of chauvinism against the Spanish, against any intimation that Spaniards are inferior. It was he who first launched the slogan of making the 15th Brigade a university for Spanish officers, of each International adopting a Spanish brother, pointing out that the best

and most lasting contribution the Internationals could make in Spain would be to leave behind a great body of Spanish officers and commissars trained by the Internationals. Doran not only instilled this idea in the minds of the men but also showed example by being the first to put his principle into practice. It was under Doran's tutelage that a soldier, a Miliciano de Cultura, José Maria Sastre, became Adjutant Brigade Commissar and finally Division Commissar. So also with José Maria Varela, now Adjutant Brigade Commissar.

Doran was one of those rare commissars who are as good military commanders as they are commissars. At Caspe, in the absence of Brigade Commander Copic, Doran acted as Brigade Commander for two days and organized a resistance which made the German fascist press declare later had delayed the whole fascist advance several days. Again as commander of the Batea sector, Doran, using the Lincoln Battalion as his main base, set up a successful line of resistance that halted the fascist advance until orders were received to retire—a retirement from which Doran did not return. Truly it can be said of Doran (the highest praise any commissar can receive, he was the first to advance, the last to retreat).

This is the heritage Doran has left us—a heritage that is the life of the Brigade itself and that we can never forget. Today we are faced with new and greater tasks. We are in a far more favorable position than ever before. But the enemy is also preparing: hard and difficult battles are ahead. We cannot be satisfied with our good work accomplished to date. It is necessary to carry forward with the GREATEST SPEED the program and heritage left us by Doran.



DIGGING IN
FORTIFICANDO

Therefore, on this May 1st, we the combatants of the 15th Brigade pledge in the name of our former Brigade Commissar Dave Doran: to rapidly improve and perfect our military organization, to improve the instruction for every man and officer, to accelerate our fortification work, to train new Spanish cadres, to further cement the unity between Internationals and Spaniards by organizing them together in the same squad, to carry into real life the slogan—WE LIVE TOGETHER; WE FIGHT TOGETHER, to develop vigilance against defeatists and gossip mongers and all those elements who aid the enemy, to work with ever increasing rhythm so as to perfect our fighting machine.

Let us be worthy of Doran. Let his life serve as an example to all of us. Let us share Doran's implacable hate towards fascism that caused him, an outstanding leader of the Young Communist League of the U. S. A., to come to Spain and give his life that democracy may live. Let us say together with Doran:

¡VIVA LA 15 BRIGADA!
¡VIVA EL EJERCITO POPULAR!
¡VIVA LA REPUBLICA!.

"WILL FIGHT FASCISM TO END" N. Y. TIMES WRITER IS TOLD

William P. Carney, the New York Times correspondent with Franco, paid a visit several weeks ago to six of our comrades who had been captured during the last offensive. He found them all well, but not particularly eager to see or talk with him. "The general opinion among us", he quotes one of them, Max Parker, as telling him, "Is that you have sold out to the fascists".

Despite the fact that Carney's well-known pro-fascist attitude was



as evident as ever in this story, he could not help grudgingly admitting that the morale of these six American comrades was unshaken. John Logan, of Boston made no secret of his politics or of his political convictions in talking to Franco's stooge, Carney.

Logan then went on to say, quoting the account in the Times, "I came to Spain more than a year ago and have served on all fronts except the Andalusian. I gave up a job as a seaman when I enlisted. I have been wounded twice and I intend to fight to the end in this war against world fascism that is being waged in Spain".

The names of the six comrades from the Lincoln-Washington and Mackenzie-Papineau Battalions who so staunchly maintain their antifascist faith in spite of their imprisonment in one of Franco's concentration camps are: John Logan, Max Parker, Matthews Dykstra, Edward Hodge, Richard Thompson, and Morris Conway. They are an additional proof, if any were needed, of the firm spirit that has brought so many loyal antifascists to fight the German and Italian invaders of Spain.



COMMISSAR DORAN presenting soldier with reward for merit
EL COMISARIO DORAN ofreciendo regalos por méritos de guerra

DORAN - EL PRIMERO EN AVANZAR, EL ÚLTIMO EN RETROCEDER

Por JOHN GATES, Comisario 15 Brigada

Doran fué un miembro del gran cuerpo de Comisarios, cuyos nombres están íntimamente ligados con la historia del Ejército Popular de España — de la gran tradición de los Comisarios — el primero en avanzar, el último en retroceder.

Nadie puede hablar de la transformación de la 15 Brigada en una unidad del ejército regular disciplinado, sin hablar de Doran. Hoy día nosotros aceptamos la disciplina y formas del ejército regular como una cosa normal, pero los veteranos de la 15 Brigada recuerdan cuando era considerado «burgués» saludar a un oficial, el que los oficiales usaran sus graduaciones y uniformes, la parada por la mañana, orden del día, la instrucción militar era con-

el avance fascista por algunos días. Otra vez como Comandante del sector Batea, Doran, usando el Batallón Lincoln como su única base, levantó una formidable línea de resistencia que detuvieron el avance fascista hasta que fueron recibidas órdenes de retirada, de la cual Doran no regresó. Verdaderamente se puede decir que Doran (el más grande premio que un Comisario puede recibir), fué el primero en avanzar y el último en retroceder.

Esta es la herencia que Doran nos ha dejado, una herencia que es la vida de la Brigada ella misma y que nunca podremos olvidar. Hoy nosotros estamos enfrentados con una nueva y gran tarea. Nosotros estamos ahora en posición



JOHN GATES, BOB THOMPSON, y DAVE DORAN



siderada como no necesaria, etc. El Teniente Coronel Copie, en su artículo hace resaltar extensamente la eficaz ayuda que Doran le prestó en la gran tarea de militarizar la Brigada, así que no diré más sobre esto.

Doran también contribuyó a estrechar los lazos entre los camaradas españoles e internacionales. El luchó y puso de manifiesto cualquier manifestación de chovinismo en contra de los españoles, en contra cualquier sentimiento de inferioridad hacia los españoles. Fué el primero que lanzó la consigna de hacer la 15 Brigada una Universidad para los Oficiales españoles, de que cada internacional adoptara un hermano español, poniendo de manifiesto que el mejor y última contribución que los internacionales pueden hacer en España es dejar un gran cuerpo de Oficiales y Comisarios españoles. Doran, no sólo gravó esta idea en la mente de los hombres sino que también les mostró en la práctica sus principios. Fué bajo la tutela de Doran, que el Miliciano de la Cultura José María Fastre, llegara a ser ayudante de Comisario de Brigada y últimamente Comisario de División. Así, también con José María Varela, ahora ayudante de Comisario de Brigada.

Doran, fué uno de esos raros Comisarios que son tan buenos Comandantes militares como Comisarios. En Caspe, durante la ausencia del Comandante Copie, Doran fué Comandante de Brigada por dos días y organizando una resistencia que los fascistas alemanes en su prensa más tarde declararon que había retardado todo

más favorable, como nunca anteriormente. Pero el enemigo está preparando grandes y difíciles batallas. Nosotros no podemos estar satisfechos con nuestro trabajo realizado hasta ahora. Es necesario llevar a cabo con gran intensidad el programa y herencia dejada a nosotros por Dave Doran.

Por consiguiente, este *Primero de Mayo*, nosotros, los combatientes de la 15 Brigada Internacional, promete, en nombre de nuestro Comisario de Brigada Dave Doran: rápidamente el mejoramiento y perfeccionamiento de nuestra organización militar, mejorar la instrucción por cada hombre y oficial, acelerar nuestro trabajo de fortificación, entrenar nuevos cuadros españoles, hacer el bloque de la unidad entre los españoles y los internacionales organizándolos juntos en las mismas escuadras, llevar a la vida real la consigna: *Nosotros vivimos juntos, Nosotros luchamos juntos*, desarrollar vigilancia en contra los derrotistas y munituradores, y todos esos elementos que ayudan al enemigo, trabajar con ritmo tan acelerado y perfecto como el de nuestros antecesoras.

Seamos dignos de Doran. Que su vida sirva de ejemplo para todos nosotros.

Compartamos el implacable odio de Doran al fascismo, que fué lo que le impulsó a él, destacado dirigente de la Liga Juvenil Comunista de los EE. UU., a venir a España y dar su vida para que la democracia pudiera vivir. Digamos todos juntos con Doran:

¡VIVA LA 15 BRIGADA. — VIVA EL EJÉRCITO POPULAR. VIVA LA REPÚBLICA!

EL TAMBOR DE SAN PEDOR

Por el capitán Germán Hernández Antón,
Comandante del 59 Batallón

Uno de los factores que más influyen y deciden en la guerra son la astucia y la moral, factores de los que nosotros, al no haber estudiado nunca este difícil y macabro arte de las matanzas colectivas, hasta que por imposición tuvimos que hacerlo no hemos sabido aprovechar y utilizar en la medida en que lo hubiéramos podido hacer, y mucho menos prevenirnos contra los audaces golpes de "efecto moral" (como podríamos llamar) de los que nacen la guerra por vocación y profesión. Y digo esto porque no faltan Camaradas que justifiquen su última retirada, diciendo que habían visto un oficial fascista que gritaba: ¡Venga un Batallón que avance por la izquierda y otro que concentre su fuego en la posición por la derecha!, así como si los últimos reveses que nos ha infligido

el enemigo los hubiera hecho a base de heroísmo o la abundancia de su infantería, así como si ignoráramos que la astucia de los militares que se pasan su vida estudiando esta *carreño* no lo llevara a veces a disfrazar las tres secciones de una compañía con uniformes del Tercio y Camisas Negras, con el fin de dar la sensación de que son tres batallones distintos los que nos atacan al mismo tiempo.

Insisto en que nosotros, al no haber desperdiciado en cosas tan contraproducentes e inútiles, como lo es el aprender a hacer la Guerra, a pesar de la autoeducación que hayamos podido adquirir con la práctica de dos años, nos falta mucho por aprender en todos los órdenes y en estos dos más que en otros. Y apropiado del tema contaré una historia más o menos legendaria y que a todos nos puede servir de lección. Cuentan que durante la Guerra de la Independencia los franceses intentaron un desembarco en la costa catalana cerca del pueblo de San Pedor: donde no había guarnición alguna. El desembarco se efectuó sin novedad; pero cuando estaban en la playa oyeron el redoble de un tambor que avanzaba sobre una montaña dominante cubierta de pinos, lo cual impedía toda visualidad. El general francés que mandaba aquella fuerza suponiendo que se trataba de un ejército que avanzaba para plantearle combate, y considerando en inferioridad debido a las condiciones del terreno, ordenó reembarcar inmediatamente, y como durante el reembarco el redoble del tambor continuaba avanzando, la tropa, creyéndose comprometida, quiso ganar los barcos a nado, perdiendo la mayor parte de ellos. Sin embargo, por la pinada no avanzaba ningún ejército, sino un chico de catorce años que sabiendo tocar el tambor tuvo ese golpe de audacia.

No creo que en el Ejército Popular esté demás aprender un poquito de Historia para impedir que nos pase como le pasó a las huestes de Napoleón.



LT. DIGGES y DAVE
en TERUEL

DAVE DORAN

"Great loyalty, capacity for sacrifice, modesty"
By Lt. - Col. VLADIMIR COPIC, Commander 15 Brigade

Dave Doran followed Steve Nelson as Commissar of War, taking over the post just after the splendid operation of the 15 Brigada at Belchite. I was very sorry about Nelson's return to America because at that time the Brigade was confronted with enormous tasks, and in such a situation to change the Commissar did not seem the best thing. When Doran was presented to me as the successor of Nelson my first thought was, "Will this young fellow be able to cope with the problems and tasks which he will meet as Commissar of War of our Brigade."

However after several days of joint activity all my fears were dissipated, and I was delighted to have found so able a co-worker as Dave. We soon discovered his fine qualities: an extraordinary loyalty, tremendous capacity for making sacrifices, great modesty. Without any loss of time, he set about his new tasks energetically and enthusiastically. And, what is more important, without any previous experience in military matters, he straightway grasped the full meaning of the tasks that confronted the Brigade. He quickly helped in the raising of its fighting capacity.

Despite the splendid accomplishments of the Brigade at Belchite, its military preparedness was not up to the required level. The grade of marksmanship was low, although the care of arms was quite fair. And in a tactical respect units were not sufficiently trained. Discipline and order in the various units were poor. This was hardly surprising. The American comrades, who became a very important factor in the re-organization of the Brigade as an English-speaking Brigade, had at that time almost no military experience and training. The situation then was serious, too, because of the general re-organization of the International Brigades. Battalions like the Dimitrov and Franco-Belge, with richer military experience and superior training, were being transferred. The departure of the Dimitrov was an especially heavy loss because it



COMRADE COPIC addressing Brigade troops
EL CAMARADA COPIC hablando a las tropas de la Brigada

was not only one of our best battalions but one of the best battalions in any of the Brigades.

With unremitting energy, Dave gave himself to the task of raising the fighting capacity of the Brigade. Among the olive groves of Almachuel, on the high lands of Senes; then on the rough plains of Ambite, Mondejar, and Albares, in all these places the Brigade is training hard, preparing for future battles. All the time Dave goes from one Battalion to another, patiently and convincingly explaining the necessity for such intensive preparation. He demands of the Battalions and Companies that great attention be given to marksmanship and the care of arms. Tirelessly he fights for discipline, and especially against the misconception held by Americans and other Internationals that they were entitled to some kind of special treatment. Certain misguided "Democrats" were saying, "It is impossible to expect English and Americans to salute officers because they have never been accustomed to do so in their own countries". One of these "Democrats" even tried to tell us that since Americans did not salute General Pershing, they could not be expected to salute now in Spain. However thanks to the efforts of Doran both American and English comrades soon came to understand the necessity for strict discipline. They saw that saluting was an expression of such discipline. What was impossible for General Pershing, according to our comrade, was accomplished by our War Commissar.

In battle Dave was a fearless leader. He was often in the front lines. He always made it his direct concern that the men were properly supplied with food, ammunition, medical aid. While in other Brigades, under less severe conditions, soldiers sometimes went for weeks without hot meals, ours, even in the

most trying circumstances received theirs. Great credit for this goes to Dave who at all times showed the greatest concern for the soldier's welfare.

During a short period, Dave acquired rich military experience. Besides the operations at Quinto and Belchite, where he worked as a Company Political Commissar, Dave, as Commissar of War of the Brigade, took part in the operations at Fuentes de Ebro, Altos de Celadas, Teruel, Segura de los Baños, Belchite-Caspe, Batea, and Gandesa. He won such confidence as a result of this work that the Divisional Command entrusted him with the leadership of military operations. For example, during my absence at Caspe, Doran was actually the Brigade Commander. Again, between Batea and Nanaspe, he was entrusted with the military command of certain operations. At that time the Lincoln-Washington Battalion was occupying this sector.

It is hard to believe that Dave is lost, that those glowing eyes, keen to see the way to victory, are closed forever. It is hard to believe that this voice which so often encouraged and cheered the fighters of the 15th Brigade is stilled. But for us who had the good fortune to work with Dave, who had heard his voice and had seen his steadfast eyes, he lives on in us, and in all those who continue to fight for the cause in which he strove and gave his all. In the history of the fight against barbarous fascism, in the struggle for liberty and peace, especially in the history of the struggles of the American working class, Dave Doran, this sterling son of the American Y. C. L. will serve as an example of international solidarity. Under the same banner, which he helped to raise so gloriously, millions will march on, the whole world over, in the struggle against fascism.

"Fine Comrade Dave"

By JOSE MARIA SASTRE
Commissar 35 Division

What a fine comrade Dave was! Today, when I think of him, I recall above all that face so full of energy. Probably we all think of him in that way. I first knew him when he was serving as aid to that other fine Commissar, Steve Nelson. I was introduced to him by Vic, a good friend and comrade, very English, phlegmatic but sincere, conscientious and a good worker.

At that time Doran showed the strength of character that was his principle characteristic. He had a strong spirit, a spirit of steel. In his love of the proletariat, he had nothing but hatred for the common enemy, the black beast. He did excellent work as Commissar of the XIV Brigade. I worked beside him during a long time; I lived very close to Doran, and to me he was friend and teacher both. He had a great deal of experience as a result of his work in the American Y. C. L. of which he had been the Secretary. Whenever he was called on to deal with a political problem or with some special situation that arose in the Battalion, he did it with justice and exactness, always with a firm grasp of the facts. And this quality



enabled him to face any difficulties, and to maintain a fine fighting spirit in the Brigade. One thing particularly was occupying him during recent months: the establishment of good Spanish command in the Battalions. The greater part of his work was devoted to this task. When he saw a comrade that seemed to him to possess the qualities of leadership, he would say to me, "We must help that comrade". And he never let the matter rest there; he interested himself in that comrade's particular work; he discussed any problems that might come up with him; he accepted his advice or corrected his opinions as the case might be, never failing to communicate his own high enthusiasm.

The last time I spoke with him, it was over the telephone. He began with his customary greeting, "Que hay, José. Como está?" with his American accent that always used to make me smile. He was very happy because in his sector, the comrades of the Lincoln had fought very well. I think back today with a great deal of feeling to the last words that he spoke to me—words that seemed to sum up his whole life from his early days as a sailor in America to his final work as Brigade Commissar, "No Pasaran."

I write these lines in my memory—in memory of my friend and my teacher—and I realize how inadequate they are to give an impression of the man that Dave Doran was.

DAVE DORAN

"Lealtad suprema, capacidad para sacrificios, y modestia"

Por Teniente-coronel VLADIMIR COPIC, Comandante 15 Brigada

DAVE DORAN sucedió a Steve Nelson como Comisario de Guerra, inmediatamente después de la espléndida operación de la 15 Brigada en Belchite. Sintió mucho el regreso de Nelson a América, pues por aquellos tiempos se había encomendado a la 15 Brigada un trabajo de mucha importancia y en tales circunstancias no era lo más indicado el cambiar de Comisario. Cuando me presentaron a Doran como sucesor de Nelson mi primer pensamiento fue: "¿Será capaz este muchacho de afrontar los problemas y las tareas que como Comisario de guerra se le van a plantear en nuestra Brigada?"

Sin embargo, después de varios días de actividad en común, quedaron disipados todos mis temores y quedé encantado de haber encontrado un colaborador tan eficaz y apto como Dave. Pronto descubrimos sus excelentes cualidades: una extraordinaria lealtad, gran capacidad para el sacrificio, enorme modestia. Sin perder tiempo emprendió con energía y entusiasmo su trabajo. Y, lo que es aún más importante, sin haber tenido previas experiencias en cuestiones militares, comprendió inmediatamente toda la importancia de la tarea que afrontaba la Brigada. En seguida se puso a ayudar para elevar su capacidad combativa.

A pesar del espléndido rendimiento de la Brigada en Belchite, su preparación militar dejaba mucho que desear. El grado de puntería era muy bajo, el cuidado de las armas bastante regular. Y en cuanto a la enseñanza táctica de sus unidades, no era tampoco suficiente. La disciplina y el orden eran deficientes. Esto no sorprendía demasiado. Los camaradas americanos que fueron un factor muy importante en la reorganización de la Brigada como Brigada de habla inglesa, apenas tenían en aquel tiempo experiencia ni ins-

trucción militar. La situación era muy seria también a causa de la reorganización general de las Brigadas Internacionales. Batallones como el Dimitrov y el batallón Franco-Belga que poseían una rica experiencia militar y una preparación superior, fueron trasladados. La marcha del Dimitrov fue en especial una gran pérdida, porque era, no solamente uno de nuestros mejores batallones sino uno de los mejores batallones entre todos los de las Brigadas.

Sin regatear energías, Dave se entregó a la obra de elevar la capacidad combativa de la Brigada. Por los olivares de Almache, en las tierras altas de Senes, en las ásperas llanuras de Ambite, Mondejar y Albarras, en todos estos sitios está la Brigada instruyéndose, preparándose para batallas futuras. Día tras día, pacientemente, va Dave de un batallón a otro exponiendo de manera persuasiva el por qué de la necesidad de aquella preparación a marchas forzadas. Pide a las Compañías y a los Batallones la mayor atención en el tiro y el máximo cuidado en el cuidado de las armas. Trabaja sin descanso por la disciplina y especialmente contra el falso criterio de los americanos y otros internacionales que se creen mercederos de un trato especial. Ciertos "demócratas" descarriados sostenían: Es imposible esperar de los ingleses y de los norteamericanos que saludan a los oficiales porque en sus países no han sido acostumbrados a ello. Uno de estos "demócratas" aún intentaba decirnos que los verdaderos norteamericanos no saludaban al general Pershing, luego mal podría esperarse que saludarán ahora en España. Sin embargo, gracias a los esfuerzos de Dave, tanto los camaradas norteamericanos como los ingleses pronto llegaron a entender la necesidad de una disciplina rigida. Vieron que el saludo era una forma



JOSE MARIA y DORAN

de expresión de esa disciplina. Lo que fue imposible para el general Pershing, según nuestro camarada, fue realizado para nuestro Comisario de guerra.

En el combate, Dave fue un jefe intrépido. Estaba siempre en primera línea. Le preocupó con inmenso interés de que los hombres nuestros comían caliente aún en las más penosas circunstancias. De esta manera logró Dave una gran consideración y en todo momento mostró un gran interés por el bienestar de sus soldados.

En un corto período adquirió Dave una profunda experiencia militar. Además de tomar parte en las operaciones de Quinto y Belchite donde trabajó como Comisario Político, Dave tomó parte en las operaciones de Fuente de Ebro, Altos de Celada, Teruel, Segura de los Baños, Belchite, Caspe, Batea y Gandesa, como Comisario de Guerra de la Brigada. Obtuvo tal confianza como resultado de su trabajo que el mando divisionario lo promovió jefe de las operaciones militares. Por ejemplo, mientras duró mi ausencia de Caspe, Batea y Gandesa, como Comisario de Guerra de la Brigada. Otra vez, entre Batea y Nanspe, se le confió el mando militar de ciertas operaciones. En este tiempo el Batallón Lincoln Washington ocupaba este sector.

Es difícil hacerse a la idea de que hemos perdido a Dave, que sus ojos ardientes, ansiosos de ver el camino de la victoria, están cerrados para siempre. Duro es creer que su voz que tantas veces había animado y alegrado a los combatientes de la 15 Brigada, no se oirá ya más. Pero para nosotros, los que tuvimos la fortuna de trabajar con Dave, los que hemos oído su voz y visto sus ojos resueltos, Dave no ha muerto, ni puede nunca morir. Vive en nosotros y en todos aquellos que continúan combatiendo por la causa en la cual él se esforzó tanto y a la que se entregó totalmente. En la historia de la lucha contra el bárbaro fascismo, en la lucha por la libertad y la paz, en la historia, especialmente de la lucha de la clase trabajadora de Norteamérica, Dave Doran, este genuino hijo de la Liga Juvenil Comunista de los E.E. U.U., ha de servir de ejemplo de la solidaridad internacional. Bajo la misma bandera, la bandera que él ayudó a colocar tan alto y tan gloriosa, millones de hombres marcharán a luchar contra el fascismo.

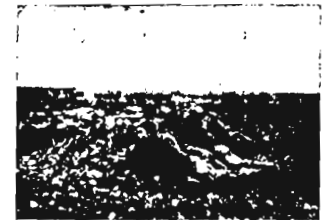
"Qué gran camarada Dave"

Por JOSÉ MARÍA SASTRE

Comisario 35 División

¡Qué gran camarada era Dave! Es casi lo único que se me ocurre al recordar hoy su figura enérgica. Y sin embargo, le debo tanto! Le conocí cuando era el ayudante del otro Comisario, de Steve Nelson. Me lo presentó un buen amigo y camarada, VIC, el tipo de inglés, flemático, pero sincero, consciente y trabajador.

Doran tenía ya entonces esta virilidad de carácter que a veces era su característica principal. Tenía un alma recia, de temple de acero. Vibraban odios en su corazón de proletario contra el enemigo común, contra la bestia negra. Y ha puesto lo mejor de su actividad en su trabajo de Comisario de la XV Brigada. He trabajado a su lado mucho tiempo; he vivido en su intimidad y Doran fue para mí amigo y profesor. Tenía él mucha experiencia, fruto de su actuación en la



Juventud Americana, de la cual fue Secretario, y cuando hablaba de un problema político que se planteaba, de una situación especial que se había creado en un Batallón, lo hacía con justicia y exactitud, viviendo de cara a la realidad. Y esto le permitió siempre hacer frente a todas las dificultades y mantener en la Brigada el espíritu combativo elevado. Tuvo especialmente, en los últimos meses, una preocupación importante: la de tener en todos los Batallones buenos mandos españoles. Y a esta tarea dedicó lo mejor de su actividad. Cuando descubría un camarada que, a su parecer, reunía cualidades de dirigente, me decía: "A este camarada hay que ayudarlo..." Y no era solamente propósito: procuraba inmediatamente tenerlo cerca, controlaba de cerca su trabajo; discutía con él los problemas que se planteaban; corregía o aceptaba opiniones, comunicaba alientos, sembraba energías de lucha.

La última vez que hablé con él fue por teléfono. Me dijo su frase de siempre: "¿Qué hay, José?" "¿Cómo está", con su acento de americano cerrado, tan característico y que siempre me hacía sonreír. Estaba todo alegre... porque en el sector los camaradas del Lincoln se habían batido como héroes. Recuerdo hoy con emoción su palabra final que simboliza toda su vida, desde la época de marino de la flota americana hasta la de Comisario de la Brigada: "¡No pasarán!"

A su memoria, como a la de mi mejor amigo y maestro, brindo estas líneas, demasiado cortés y que sólo reflejan pobremente lo que Doran fue.



BASEBALL entre los camaradas de la Base de Instrucción
BASEBALL TEAM among comrades of the training base



"LOS NIÑOS DE HOY y los hombres de mañana"
"CHILDREN OF TODAY, men and women of tomorrow"

LA REPÚBLICA Y LOS CAMPESINOS

España, país agrícola por excelencia, veía morir de hambre a los campesinos. La casi totalidad del terreno cultivable estaba en poder de los grandes terratenientes, de los lacayos de la monarquía, que vivían en la opulencia gastando las ganancias que el trabajo agotador del campesino le daba. Y sin embargo, para ellos no había más que jornadas misérrimas de hambre que les permitían ver morir a sus hijos lentamente de hambre.

La República en sus primeros tiempos dió al campesino jornales

que permitieron tener a éste una vida más desahogada, también acordó las jornadas de trabajo y organizó el instituto de reforma agraria, para el campesino. Pero cuando más avances se han hecho, fué a partir del triunfo del Frente Popular y a partir del comienzo de la sublevación el 19 de julio de 1936.

La República se incautó de la tierra de los terratenientes y la repartió entre los campesinos para que libremente la trabajaran individual o colectivamente dando el Gobierno las semillas y los medios necesarios para comenzar el cultivo.

Se han creado colectividades grandiosas, cooperativas de consumo, escuela de preparación técnica



MANABATE

LA REPÚBLICA

por JOSÉ
Ayudante Comisario

y últimamente el reparto de tractores a las colectividades.

El campo español ha quedado transformado, la consigna de "la tierra para el que la trabaja" ha sido cumplida y de aquel campesino esclavizado y misero, sale hoy el campesino epañol al que la República le ha dado todo, la tierra para que la trabaje, la semilla para que siembre, la máquina para evitarle fatigas, la cultura para hacerse hombre libre.

Todo eso lo sabe el campesino español y unos con el arado, otros con el fusil, laboran y luchan por la República, que hizo de ellos hombres, no esclavos.

LA REPÚBLICA Y LA CULTURA

España, siendo de los jesuitas, tenía su enseñanza, su cultura, al servicio de los intereses del burgués, del cacique de la monarquía.

Este veía que mientras el pueblo fuese inculto y sobre ellos existiese las influencias de la religión, ellos podían seguir explotándolo.

El advenimiento de la República vino a destrozar los viejos métodos, y creó una cultura nueva, cultura del pueblo y para el pueblo, sin influencias religiosas que la desfigurasen.

Se han creado colonias infantiles donde nuestros hijos se pongan sanos y fuertes.

Ellos son los niños de hoy y los hombres del mañana, y mientras nosotros luchamos por la República, la República lucha por ellos.

En la lucha contra el analfabetismo ha sido esta campaña grandiosamente desarrollada. En la fábrica, en el campo, en las ciudades y en los pueblos, hasta las aldeas más penueñas ha llegado la ley de la cultura.

Miles de campesinos, de obreros que no sabían leer ni escribir, han recibido los beneficios de la campaña, muchos de ellos ahora en las universidades, en las escuelas profesionales se convierten en hombres cultos y dispuestos a forjar una España grande, libre y culta.

En el Ejército, nadie mejor que nosotros que a él pertenecemos, sabemos la labor realizada de los milicianos de la cultura, los cuales son populares en el Ejército.

Siete años de República han bastado para crear una cultura cuyo solo y exclusivo objeto es capacitar al pueblo para que sin ayudas extrañas viva libre y prósperamente.

LA REPÚBLICA Y LOS OBREROS

Desde el advenimiento de la República el Gobierno ha realizado una labor intensa y continuada, mejoramiento de la vida y condiciones del trabajo del obrero. La labor se ha acelerado sobremedida

desde la fecha gloriosa del 16 de febrero.

Todos recordamos todavía cuando en tiempos de la monarquía el obrero español estaba a la merced de la voluntad del patrono, el cual disponía de toda la fuerza del poder público para imponerla.

En cambio, la República puso en algunas leyes el contrato del trabajo, en ellas se determinan las vacaciones, la imposibilidad de despedir injustamente al obrero, moles de lograr las bases del trabajo en las que se fijan las bases interinas para el trabajo y para el salario. Al lado de esta ley, la de los jurados mixtos, órganos legales encargados de atender las reclamaciones del patrono y del obrero.

Resultado de estas leyes: el aumento de los salarios y el me-



COMISARIOS Varela y Doran

foramiento de la situación general del trabajador.

La ley de asociaciones profesionales que dió vida legal a los sindicatos.

Cientos de bases de trabajo fueron puestas en vigor al cabo de esas leyes y cada una de ellas era el mejoramiento y el bienestar para el trabajador.

Muchas más dió la República, la de accidentes de trabajo, la de seguro social, todas ellas han dado al obrero el medio de vivir desahogadamente y con su porvenir asegurado.

Pero sobre todo, desde el 19 de julio el avance ha sido extraordinario.

La incautación por el Estado de las industrias pertenecientes a elementos facciosos y su entrega a los obreros para la explotación por medio de los consejos de los obreros ha sido el paso más grande dado en Europa.

Esta, entre mucho más que la República ha dado al obrero de la industria.

Vemos ahora como al obrero de la miseria y sin ningún derecho, la República le ha convertido en el hombre sano y fuerte que puede llenar una vida de trabajo, si, pero también de bienestar para él y sus hijos.

DEMOCRÁTICA

M.^A VARELA

de la 15 Brigada

THE REPUBLIC AND THE PEASANT

Spain is essentially an agricultural country, but its farming population were dying of hunger. Almost all of the land under cultivation was in the hands of the great landlords, of the lackeys of the monarchy, who lived in luxury throwing away the riches that the work of the starved peasantry had won for them. As for the peasantry, they passed their days in misery watching their children perish slowly from hunger.

From its inception the Republic began to improve the working conditions of the peasant, enabling him to lead a fuller life. The length of the working day was regulated and an Institute of Agricultural Reform was organized. In the short space of time between the triumph of the Popular Front and the fascist revolt on the 10 of July 1936, a great deal had already been accomplished.

The Republic took the land from the rich landlords and divided it among the peasants so that it could be freely worked either individually in small farms or as collectives. The Government also furnished seed and agricultural implements and tools to the peasants.

These large collectives are now functioning on a co-operative basis. The Government is continuing its technical aid, and just lately, tractors have been given to different localities.

The Spanish earth has been transformed by the slogan, "The land to those who work it". The miserable and enslaved peasant of yesterday has become the Spanish farmer of today, citizen of the Republic that has given him all: Land to till, seed to sow the land, farming machinery to save him from back breaking toil, culture to make him a free man.

The Spanish "Campesino" realizes this today. And he appreciates it. He is working—here with the spade, there with the rifle—to defend the Republic that has changed him from a slave to a free man.

THE REPUBLIC AND CULTURE

When the Jesuits had control of instruction in Spain, learning and culture were at the service of the bourgeoisie, the rich landlords, and the monarchy.

The Jesuits saw to it that the mass of the people remained in ignorance. Their religion was only a means by which they might be further exploited.

At the coming of the Republic, however, all this was changed. A new culture was created—a culture of the people and for the people, uninfluenced by stifling superstition.

Children's Colonies have been established so that our youth may be strong and healthy.

They are the little children of today, but they are the men of tomorrow. And while we are fighting for the Republic, the Republic watches over them.

Throughout the country, illiteracy is being combated. In the factory, in the fields, in city and in country alike—even in the smallest hamlet—the spirit of our new culture is at work.

Thousands of agricultural workers who never before knew how to read or write are now reaping the benefits of their country's wise policy. Many of them are now in universities or professional schools, equipping themselves as cultured men to help forge a greater, richer, freer Spain.

No one knows better than we the wonderful work accomplished in the army by the Militia of Culture.

Seven years of the Republic have created a culture the sole object of which is to enable the people to live freely, prosperously, and happily.

THE REPUBLIC AND THE WORKERS

From the moment of the inauguration of the Republic, the Government has undertaken a great task.

They have steadily improved the life and working conditions of the worker. The greatest strides in this respect have been made since our glorious victory at the polls on the 16th of February '36.

In the time of the monarchy, the Spanish worker was completely at the mercy of the employer. And this vogue that the worker bore was kept firmly in place by the power of the government.

But when the Republic came to power, laws were passed establishing worker's contracts, allowing the workers vacations, preventing unjust dismissals, arranging scales of hours and wages. In addition, any industrial disputes were to be settled by juries composed of both workers and employers.

The result of these laws was that the general situation of the worker was much improved.

There was a law that firmly established the legal existence of the trade unions.

Hundreds of factories were affected by the passage of these laws. Labor exchanges were created, and every one of them served to improve the condition of the worker.

The Republic also did much more—worker's insurance, social security laws, all these permitted the worker to live with a new sense of confidence and well-being.



WALLPAPER
PERIÓDICO MURAL

But from the 19th of July '36, the progress made has been extraordinary.

The taking over by the State of the factories formerly belonging to fascist elements and their delivery to the workers to be run, administered, and controlled by means of worker's councils has been one of the most progressive steps taken in western Europe.

This is just a little of what the Republic has done for the industrial worker.

We have seen how the worker, who used to live in poverty and without rights, now under the Republic has been transformed into a strong, healthy citizen who can give us the benefits of his labor, yes, but who also guards the fruits of that labor for his children.



Como traidor debe tratarse al que anteponga a cualquier otra cuestión, la voluntad de aplastar al enemigo y de ayudar al Gobierno en esta tarea. El que dude de que nuestro pueblo puede hacer los esfuerzos que sean necesarios para satisfacer plenamente las necesidades de nuestro ejército.

Dr. NEGRIN, Presidente del Consejo de Ministros

Ediciones del Comité Nacional de la Brigada 15



PARA LA DEFENSA FOR DEFENSE

¡Desde hace meses y meses, algunos desde hace año y medio, habéis lanzado vuestros cuerpos sobre todos los puntos de los frentes de la libertad! Estabais en Irún, en



"Mallorca", en Paganioustan. Estabais en el Manzanares y en la Ciudad Universitaria. De Andújar a Belchite habéis opuesto, como valientes soldados del Ejército Popular de España, una infranqueable barrera a las hordas de la barbarie fascista.

La inmensa mayoría de vosotros no habéis conocido ni tregua, ni descanso. Vestidos, calzados, armados con lo que posee la República —es decir, con muy poca cosa para un ejército tan grande— habéis, sin embargo, asestado golpes decisivos al enemigo del género humano. Habéis tenido la inmensa alegría de participar en las victorias de los Ejércitos de la República: Madrid, Jarama, Guadalajara, Brunete, Belchite, Teruel.

Por todo lo que habéis hecho, por el magnífico ejemplo que habéis dado a los que, capitulando sin cesar ante el bestial fascismo, quisieran librarle aún grandes pueblos, por todo esto, por todo lo que se sabe y por todo lo que se adivina, en el mundo entero, los obreros, los

demócratas, los hombres de espíritu libre, os admiran y os quieren. Y el gran pueblo de España, los dirigentes, los más inminentes de todos sus Partidos y Organizaciones, los miembros de su Gobierno de Unión Nacional, os quieren al igual que a sus hijos.

El Jefe del Gobierno, Ministro de Defensa Nacional, Dr. Negrín, ¿no rendía un reciente homenaje a "esos hombres que no han pedido más que el honor de luchar y de morir por la libertad?"

Sí, diez veces mejor abastecidos que nosotros en material, los fascistas han alcanzado el mar a costa de grandes pérdidas.

¡Pero no han roto nuestro frente! Y menos aún han conseguido desmoralizar al pueblo español y a su Glorioso Ejército.

En su prensa y por la radio, se jactan de haber destruido a las Brigadas Internacionales. ¡Pues no! Si

han caído muchos camaradas queridos, los mejores entre los mejores.

Sí, muchos de los nuestros sufren en los lechos de hospitales. Pero las Brigadas del Ejército Popular, de las que forman parte las antiguas Brigadas Internacionales —surgidas de las entrañas mismas del pueblo— están siempre ahí, uertas dispuestas al combate, a los órdenes del mando y del Gobierno de la República.

Sí, bajo los golpes de un material enorme, hemos tenido que retroceder. Pero, como lo describía Karl Liebknecht, en la mañana misma de su asesinato, en su famoso "Malgré Tout" (a pesar de todo): "Hay victorias que son derrotas y derrotas que son victorias."

La dura lección de los hechos nos servirá.

Aprender cada día más de prisa y mejor.

Aprender a la perfección el manejo de las armas, la táctica del combate para cada unidad.

Elevar a los puestos de mando a los mejores, los que se han revelado, los más tranquilos, los más firmes, los más capaces, durante los combates, por jóvenes que sean.

Conocer cómo se rompe el ataque enemigo por medio de fortificaciones bien construidas en lugares bien escogidos.

Aquí podremos aplicar la consigna esencial del Gobierno: *Resistir hoy para atacar y vencer mañana.*

Resistir, porque esto permite al nuevo Gobierno de Unión Nacional que agrupa en su seno a todos los Partidos y organizaciones sindicales, de reunir todas las fuerzas esenciales del país para vencer.

Como declara el vibrante manifiesto del Partido Socialista Unificado de Cataluña:

Resistiendo podremos duplicar los efectivos de nuestro glorioso Ejército, completar su armamento, su entrenamiento técnico, acabar el proceso de depuración con el exterminio implacable de traidores, saboteadores, provocadores, de los agentes fascistas y trotskistas.

Resistiendo podremos mejorar y completar nuestra industria de guerra, hoy ya poderosa, y ponerla en condiciones de mejorar nuestro Ejército.

Resistiendo, el Gobierno de la República podrá movilizar los recursos económicos de nuestro país para transformarlos en armas, materias primas y viveres.

Resistiendo, el Gobierno de la República podrá anular a los vacilantes, a los derrotistas, a los claudicantes.

Resistiendo, el Gobierno de la República liquidará la Quinta Columna...

Resistiendo, el Gobierno de la República podrá desarrollar, con el ritmo acelerado que antes no teníamos, sus planes para reemprender una ofensiva próxima, planes de victoria segura, de consolidación de la República Democrática, de las Libertades de Cataluña, de la Paz del Mundo.

Resistiendo venceremos la farsa de la No Intervención, tendremos a nuestro lado no solamente a la U. R. S. S., nuestra y nunca bastante estimada amiga, sino a todos los países democráticos del Mundo, las masas populares, las cuales presionan ya fuertemente a sus Gobiernos, porque la convicción de que nuestra lucha es la suya, de que nuestra libertad consolidada es su libertad, es más profunda y más activa de día en día.

Resistiendo derrotaremos al fascismo internacional, que tiene prisa por acabar, abrumado por sus contradicciones internas, por su pánico financiero, por la miseria que crea el espíritu de revolución, de liberación de las masas, sometidas a la más brutal de las tiranías.

RESISTIR, porque la resistencia de hoy es la VICTORIA espléndida de mañana."

Sí, es verdad provisionalmente

estamos divididos en dos grupos de Ejército, pero precisamente por esto, luchamos aún con más energía, para volvernos a unir pronto de nuevo en un solo Ejército irresistible y victorioso.

Luchar por la independencia de España en el seno de los Ejércitos de la República, es luchar por la libertad de los grandes pueblos de Alemania, de Austria, de Italia y de los demás países de Europa, aplastados por el fascismo horrible.

Luchar por la independencia de España es luchar para defender la independencia de Checoslovaquia, de Francia, de Bélgica de Inglaterra y de América.

Ganar la guerra en España es defender la paz, es evitar a Europa y a América: los horrores de la guerra.

Es por esto por lo que los Voluntarios Internacionales se funden cada día más en el Ejército Popular.

Es en esta estrecha unidad con todo el pueblo español, con sus organizaciones, sobre la gran consigna que resume todas las demás:

GANAR LA GUERRA

que reposa la fuerza esencial del Ejército Popular. Es sobre esta consigna sobre la que mañana lucharemos y venceremos.

¡Abajo el fascismo!
¡Viva el Ejército Popular!
¡Viva el Gobierno de la República!
¡Viva la España libre!



VOLUNTARIOS INTERNACIONALES
INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

¡DE ESPAÑA!

É MARTY

For many months now—some of you for a year and a half—you have fought on all the fronts of liberty! You were at Irun, at Mañlora, at Pella Rouston. You fought along the Manzanares and at University City. From Andújar to Belchite, you, as valiant soldiers of the Spanish People's Army, have stood as a firm barrier to the hordes of fascist barbarism.

The great majority of you have known no rest. Clothed and armed with what the Republic possessed—that is to say with very little for such a large army—you have nevertheless dealt decisive blows to the enemy of mankind. You have had the great joy of aiding in the victories won by the armies of the Republic: Madrid, Jarama, Guadalaajara, Brunete, Belchite, Teruel.

For all that you have done, for the magnificent example that you give to those who, constantly giving way before a bestial fascism, now wish to deliver up to it yet other nations, for all this—for all that we know and feel—throughout the world, workers, democrats, free men admire you and love you. And the great Spanish people—the leaders of their political parties and organizations, the members of their Government of National Union—they cherish you equally with their own.

The head of the Government, the Minister of National Defense, President Negrín rendered homage recently to "Those men who have only asked for the honor of fighting and dying for liberty."

Yes, with ten times our war material, the fascists were able to

reach the sea at the cost of heavy losses.

But they have not broken our front! Still less have they been able to break the morale of the Spanish people and their glorious army.

In their press and over the radio they boast of having destroyed the International Brigades! Really! Yes, many of our loved comrades, the best of the best, have fallen.

Yes, many others are suffering on hospital beds. But the Brigades of the Peoples Army—of which the old International Brigades are now a part—sprung from the very heart of the people, are still there, firm, ready for combat—at the orders of the Command and of the Government of the Republic.

Yes, under the blows inflicted by an enormous war material, we had to retreat. But, as Karl LIEBKNECHT wrote on the very morning of his assassination in his famous "In Spite of All," "There are victories which are really defeats and defeats which are victories."

The hard lesson of facts will be of use to us.

Learn every day faster and better.

Learn thoroughly the use of your arms; the battle tactics for every unit.

Promote to positions of command the best among you—those who have shown themselves as calm, firm, capable on the field of battle—no matter how young they may be.

Know how to shatter the enemy's attack by the use of well constructed and well placed fortifications.

Thus we can apply the order of the Government: **RESIST** today in order to attack and conquer tomorrow.

Resist because to resist will allow the new Government of National Union, that includes all parties and union organizations, to gather the primary forces of the country in order to conquer.

As the manifesto of the Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia says in such stirring words:

"In resisting we can double the effectiveness of our glorious army, we can complete our armament program, complete our technical training, purify our ranks by the absolute extermination of all traitors, saboteurs, provocateurs, fascist or Trotskyite agents.

"In resisting we can improve and complete our war industry, already powerful today, and we can raise it to a level from which our army can be powerfully aided.

"In resisting the Government of the Republic will be able to mobilize the economic forces of our country, to transform them into arms, into essential war materials, and into food supplies.

overcome all vacillation, all hesitation.

"In resisting the Government can, any possible elements representing defeatism.

"In resisting the Government will liquidate the 5th Column.

"In resisting the Government of the Republic can, at a pace that we have not yet attained, develop its plans for the resumption of the offensive, plans for victory, for consolidating the democratic republic, for the liberties of Catalonia, for world peace.

"In resisting we will defeat the force of non-intervention, we will draw to our side the U. S. S. R., our—and we can never say it too many times—our friend, and not only the U. S. S. R. but all the democratic countries of the world. And also the popular masses that are already bringing strong pressure to bear upon their respective Governments because they are now



ANDRÉ MARTY

mans, the Austrians, the Italians, all those Europeans now crushed by hideous fascism.

"To fight for the freedom of Spain is to fight for the independence of Czechoslovakia, of Fran-



convicted that our fight is their's—that our liberty strengthens their liberty. This feeling throughout the world is growing day by day.

"In resisting we will succeed in routing international fascism, which, crushed by its interior contradictions, by its ruinous financial condition, by the general misery that creates a revolutionary spirit, will eventually see the liberation of the masses, those masses that now undergo the most brutal of tyrannies.

"RESIST because the resistance of today is the splendid victory of tomorrow."

Yes, it is true, for the time being we are divided into two armies, but for that very reason we will fight with a greater will so that soon we may be re-united in one single army, irresistible and victorious.

To fight for the freedom of Spain with the armies of the Republic is to fight for the freedom of those other great peoples, the Ger-

ce, of Belgium, of England and America.

To win the war in Spain is to uphold peace. In winning the war, we save Europe and America from the horrors of war.

That is the reason why every day international volunteers are becoming more and more unified with the Popular Army.

It is with this strict unity with the Spanish people—and their organizations—on that great order which includes all other orders:

WIN THE WAR

that rests the essential power of the Popular Army. It is with that great order, that command, ringing in our ears that tomorrow we will battle and we will conquer.

Down with fascism!

Long live the People's Army!

Long live the Government of the Republic!

Long live a free Spain!



ONALES DESFILANDO, TEERS ON PARADE

DELEGATION OF UGT-CNT WORKERS SPEND MAY DAY WITH BRIGADE

May 1st was celebrated at the 15th Brigade with a visit of a joint committee representing both the U. G. T. and C. N. T. Local Federation of Barcelona. The delegation was greeted by Brigade Commander der Copic, War Commissar, John Gates, and other staff members.

A bus loaded with more than 35 men and women belonging to these two great Federations started from Barcelona early May Day morning, just after a fascist air raid, and arrived at the Brigade at midday.

After a short welcome speech by Brigade Commander Lt-col. Copic, the delegation was led down the main road into a ravine where a company of Brigade soldiers stood in open rectangular formation. The delegation gathered in the open rectangle of soldiers in rank and cheered Commander Copic who greeted the unity of action between the two Trade Union Federations. He urged the strengthening of this unity to meet better the attacks of the enemy. He assured the delegation that the men at the front regardless of their political or syndical beliefs will carry on as one body of Anti-fascists against the enemy.

A woman comrade representing the Women's Antifascist League addressed the audience with such warmth and sincerity that not a few were moved to wipe away tears. She was a young girl, hair pushed back, a dressmaker. In her speech, she pledged herself to take back the spirit of the front lines to the rear and into the factories, and to urge her comrades to carry on with greater energy than ever to supply the front lines with the war necessities.

At the dinner table, after songs were sung, in which Comrade Copic entertained the guests with his magnificent voice, and brief talks made by U. G. T. and C. N. T. representatives, the delegation was split into three groups, each group visiting a Battalion where pre-arrangements were made to meet and honor them.

In the Lincoln Battalion a dress parade was held for the visitors. Gifts, to men who had earned them



for outstanding acts of bravery in the last actions, were presented by Commander Copic. Additional gifts were presented by Battalion Commander...

The Battalion then took the following oath:

"On this May 1st, we the soldiers of the Lincoln-Washington Battalion of the 15th Brigade of the Republican Army, pledge with all our strength and elevated morale, to dedicate ourselves to the defense of our country and our cause. We shall employ all our energies toward the task of perfecting ourselves as soldiers and in preparing for the coming offensives which will sweep the fascist invaders from our Spanish soil forever.

We pledge to reds today, so that tomorrow we can attack and conquer."

SPAIN

May 1st, 1938

1
There is no rest or peace in all this land,
Along this bitter, this hard-trodden road,
And in these hearths.
Listen, road-menders, shepherds,
Workers of Paris, London and the world
There is no rest or peace in all this land!

2
Men, workers like yourselves, they too
With bullocks yoked to plough just like your own,
With lathes like yours,
Or dusty flocks smelling of rosemary,
Under the same sky, in the same factories,
Trudging and working, and never resting.

3
Men, workers like yourselves, they too
With children just as lovely
And sheets as poor on beds just like your own,
And with fresh bread that smells as good as yours,
Fight on and triumph under olive trees
And in the yellow cornfields,
And on the eternal snow that sleeps beneath the pines.

4
Under a manly sky, men among men,
Strong and glad as you are strong and glad,
Leave in forgetfulness
Their blazing houses and their old folk crippled.
There is no rest or peace in all this land
Which shall forever bear the name of Spain! —
Because we are and shall be the only masters of the day,
Masters of all our cities, and the real masters of our fields.

5
The men from the mines,
The herdsmen and the men from up the hills,
The men who make the bread and those who grow the wheat,
The poets, blacksmiths, woodworkers,
Defending here a people's name and life
On the baked soil out with advance posts,
And in the factories.

6
There is no rest or peace in all this land!
But only flowers growing in earthen pots.
Letters the Artillery finished,
And men who do not rest,
Are ever watchful, like our chestnut trees,
And stand on guard, waiting for victory's fruits.

LORENZO VARELA

Translated from the Spanish by A. M. Elliot.



El general Miaja visto por Arroyito,
24 Batallón 1.ª Compañía

MAY IS IN THE U. S. A

By GEORGE WATT
Commissar 58 Battalion

Over a year ago, January 1937, the Congress of the United States railroaded through the infamous Neutrality Act. This "unneutral" Act places an embargo on goods going to Loyalist Spain, at the same time continuing to permit Italian and German purchasers to continue buying for their governments in the United States. This was our Government's answer to the pleadings of Spanish Democracy fighting off the invasion of German and Italian fascism. American isolationism was riding firmly in the saddle.

Today, Senator Nye, the author of this very Neutrality Act is introducing into the Senate a modification which will permit the sale of war materials to the Spanish Government. What has brought about this drastic change of policy on the part of the most ardent supporters of isolationism?

At about the same time that this Act was passed the first groups of American volunteers began to appear on Spanish soil to help defend Spanish and World Democracy. While reactionaries and muddle-headed politicians had succeeded, in effect, in lining America up with the war-makers, these American boys in Spain fought to wipe out the stain upon American Democracy. They were helping with the Spanish people to decide the issue of World War or Peace.

On American soil, the people had begun to act more decisively for peace. Through such organizations as the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, Friends of the Lincoln Battalion, Medical Aid Committee, hundreds of thousands of Americans were rallied to the support of Spanish Democracy. The Japanese war on China shocked the American people out of their "neutrality" encasement. The Japanese Boycott swept the States from coast to coast.

President Roosevelt in a series of speeches, starting last October 5th, reflected the popular sentiment for collective security.

The Gallup poll showed that 75 % of the American people are in favor of Loyalist Spain. From all sections of the populations came the evidences that at last the American people want collective action for peace. They know that in order to keep America out of war, we must keep war out of the world. The big trade unions, the student body, through the American student union in their great student Peace strikes, the churches, the national youth organizations, our increasing number of Congressmen and Senators, the dominant voice emerging in American life—all speak for collective action for peace, for support of Republican Spain.

But this roaring voice of the people has not yet shaken the Government out of its lethargy. The gap between the people's will and Government action will have to be bridged before America can definitely be one of the forces for peace. The first step is lifting the embargo against Spain. The American people are determined to see this carried out.

LAS FEDERACIONES LOCALES DE BARCELONA DE LA C. N. T. Y DE LA U. G. T. EFECTUAN UNA VISITA DE CONJUNTO AL FRENTE

Uno de los actos más simpáticos llevados a cabo el Primero de Mayo, fué la visita hecha a la 15 Brigada Internacional por las organizaciones representativas de la totalidad de los trabajadores de Barcelona, Brigada a la que apadrina la Federación local de la U. G. T.

¡Magnífico acto de solidaridad entre nuestros combatientes y el proletariado estrechamente unido!

Miembros de los Comités de las Federaciones Locales de ambas sindicales, representantes de Sindicatos, la Organización Femenil Libertaria y compañeras ugetistas, marcharon al frente a dar a los valerosos combatientes de la República, representados en este caso por la 15 Brigada Internacional, pruebas de fraternidad en fecha tan señalada por todos los obreros del mundo.

La gloriosa unidad de nuestro Ejército, integrada por internacionales y españoles, recibió con júbilo inmenso la visita de los trabajadores barceloneses. La cordial acogida se convirtió en clamoroso entusiasmo cuando, comisarios, jefes, oficiales y soldados conocieron a través de las cálidas palabras de salutación de los representantes de la U. G. T. y de la C. N. T., que la trascendental obra de unidad llevada a cabo en nuestra retaguardia no era vana palabrería, ya que era anhelado vehementemente de todos los obreros el que se tradujese en continuos

y expresivos actos, tal como el que, en aquellos momentos, se llevaba a cabo en las propias trincheras.

Internacionales y españoles voluntarios y de las quintas incorporadas a la heroica Brigada, manifestaban con continuos vivas a la unidad proletaria y antifascista, la alegría que les ocasionaba una visita de tal naturaleza.

Durante el día, en los distintos batallones y compañías de la unidad, se realizaron numerosos actos en celebración del Primero de Mayo, distribuyéndose al mismo tiempo recompensas a los más destacados y heroicos combatientes.

En ellos, nuestros representantes, con las compañeras, jefes y comisarios, dirigieron la palabra a los bravos combatientes, los cuales, asimismo, intervinieron con emocionados y expresivos discursos.

Las Federaciones Locales entregaron a nuestros combatientes regalos hechos conjuntamente, ya que la Federación Local de la C. N. T. considera también a la 15 Brigada como ahijada suya.

Finalizada la visita, después de todos los actos a que hemos aludido, en los cuales fué atendida y obsequiada la representación de nuestras Organizaciones, fueron despedidos con himnos proletarios, y antifascistas que, con marcada emoción, cantaron conjuntamente desde el Jefe de la Brigada al último de nuestros camaradas.

RECOMPENSAS POR MERITOS

BATALLON 58 — Primero de Mayo de 1938.

Al Comisariado de la XV Brigada :

Muchos de los camaradas que más se hayan distinguido en las últimas operaciones con relación de los hechos por lo que se les propone para recompensa :

CABO BOE NELSON : Enlace de sección. Este camarada actuó en las últimas operaciones cumpliendo con su deber bajo situaciones muy difíciles. Habiendo perdido el calzado cuando su sección se hallaba separado de su Batallón luego de cumplir su misión no separándose del jefe de la sección, marchó mucha distancia descalzo hasta lograr unirse al Batallón a la sección a la cual pertenece.

CABO JUAN LÓPEZ RAMÍREZ. En la última operación era jefe de un pelotón, hallándose en él muchos reclutas. En una ocasión él y su pelotón estaban separados durante tres horas de su compañía y sin embargo con su pelotón tomó una posición enfrente del enemigo que se hallaba muy numeroso. Tenía en el pelotón camaradas internacionales y españoles. Formó con él patrullas delante de la posición en una distancia de dos kilómetros entre el flanco de nuestro Batallón y otro de la 11 Brigada, controlando perfectamente a sus soldados y cuando se dió la orden de retirada lo hizo ordenadamente.

SARGENTO MATÍAS TORRADO BRUNNA. Es uno de los camaradas que durante las últimas operaciones no perdió el contacto del Batallón y aguantó hasta al reconocer que se encontraban un grupo de soldados que querían que se quedaran con ellos y sin perder la moral se unió con su sargento y tres camaradas más ; le propusieron salir a las diez de la noche a pasar las líneas facciosas y buscar nuestras fuerzas, consiguientemente, pues, el día siguiente se hallaban ya en Batallón. Este camarada es evadido del campo fascista a nuestras líneas, lo cual demuestra ser un buen camarada. Era cabo y últimamente fué ascendido a sargento.

CABO MANUEL PERPIÑAN SERRANO. Por su buen comportamiento en las últimas operaciones, es uno de los que sin perder la moral no se separó de los Oficiales de la Compañía y con mucho ánimo y coraje animó en gran manera a los camaradas, pasando entre dos fuegos del enemigo que les tiraba desde un pueblo que se hallaba enfrente. Además es uno de los camaradas más antiguos de la 2.ª Compañía del Batallón Lincoln Washington.

El ayudante del Batallón,
RAMÓN LOPOFF

EL PRIMERO DE MAYO EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

Por **GEORGE WATT** Comisario 58 Batallón

Hace un año, en enero de 1937, el Parlamento de los Estados Unidos pasaba rápidamente sobre la ignominiosa Acta de Neutralidad. Esta ley tan « neutral » estableció un embargo sobre materiales destinados a la España leal, mientras que continuó permitiendo a los alemanes e italianos que continuaran comprando en los Estados Unidos para sus respectivos Gobiernos. Esta fue la contestación de nuestro Gobierno al requerimiento de la Democracia Española en lucha contra la invasión del fascismo alemán e italiano.

Hoy, el Senador Nye, el autor de esta verdadera Acta de Neutralidad, trata de introducir ante el Senado una modificación que permita la venta de material de guerra al Gobierno de España. ¿Qué es lo que ha llevado al más ardiente de los defensores del aislamiento norteamericano a introducir este cambio tan brusco en su política?

Casi al mismo tiempo que se discutía la Ley de Neutralidad el primer grupo de voluntarios norteamericanos aparecía en el suelo español para ayudar a defender la democracia española y universal. Mientras los reaccionarios y políticos estúpidos corrían en círculos a colocar a América en la línea

de los fautores de guerra, estos muchachos americanos luchaban en España para borrar la mancha caída sobre la democracia americana. Ayudaban al pueblo español a decidir la Paz o la guerra mundial.

En Norteamérica ha comenzado a actuar de una manera decisiva a favor de la paz. A través de organizaciones como el Comité Norteamericano de Ayuda a la España democrática, Amigos del Batallón Lincoln, Comité de Ayuda Médica,

cientos de miles de americanos se enrolaron en la ayuda a la España democrática. Más tarde la guerra de los japoneses en China sacó al pueblo americano del encanajamiento de la « neutralidad ».

El boicot a los productos japoneses barrió los Estados Unidos de un extremo a otro.

El Presidente Roosevelt, en una serie de discursos pronunciados el 5 de octubre reflejaba el sentimiento popular por la seguridad colectiva

El Gallopo voto mostró que el 75 % del pueblo americano estaba en favor de la España leal. De todos los sectores de la población llegaron muestras de que por fin el pueblo americano deseaba actuar colectivamente por la paz. Norteamérica comprende que para conservar a los Estados Unidos fuera de la guerra es necesario alejar la guerra del mundo. Los grandes Sindicatos, las agrupaciones estudiantiles a través de la Unión de Estudiantes Americanos, en su huelga anual por la paz, las iglesias, las organizaciones juveniles nacionales, nuestro creciente número de Diputados y Senadores, la vez más dominante de la vida americana — todos hablan en favor de acciones colectivas para la paz, en favor de la ayuda a la España Republicana.

Pero esta voz potente del pueblo no ha conseguido aún sacar al Gobierno de su sueño letárgico. La laguna entre la voluntad del pueblo y la acción del Gobierno tiene que ser saldada. Se quiere que Norteamérica sea definitivamente una de las naciones de paz. El primer paso es la paz colectiva, luego que para salvar la paz el pueblo Norteamericano debe decidir a que precio se consigue.



GRUB-TIME — HORA DE COMIDA



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LEARN SPANISH!

So long as the language barrier remains, the distinction will be harder to bridge, and for this as well as for practical reasons it is the duty of every volunteer to make what efforts he can to acquire at least a working knowledge of Spanish. The Spaniards are a friendly and patient people and respond quickly to a comradely approach. Above all we must allow no race-discrimination to affect our attitude towards them. Comrades should beware of loose talk and comparisons, and do all they can to promote friendly feelings on a basis of complete equality. In so far as we are fighting international fascism together, we must recognise that Spanish volunteers have equal right with ourselves to the title of «Internationals» and any prestige we may consider it to carry.

The task of unification, therefore, has two directions. For the sake of efficiency, we must identify ourselves with a Spanish army, while recognizing its purpose to be

international as well. These who behave in one way to the English-speaking volunteers and in another



way to the Spaniards are not only bad soldiers, but have failed to understand their political position in Spain.

CHANGES IN THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT



ADOLF HITLER
Chancellor of the Reich



ADOLF HITLER
Generalissimo (Army, Navy)



HITLER
Generalissimo (Army, Navy)



HERMANN GOERING
Minister of War and Navy



HEINRICH HIMMLER
Minister of the Interior



JOSEPH GOEBBELS
Minister of Propaganda

MAY DAY IN ENGLAND

By Commissar BOB COONEY

May Day—day of International Solidarity has a greater significance this year than ever before.

The workers of the world know that their fate is being decided on the battlefields of Spain and China. They know that their own mass actions will have a decisive influence on the outcome of the fight in these countries.

When the workers of the world march today, Spain and China will be uppermost in their minds.

In England they will march with a feeling of shame that it is the British Government which by its support of the fascist powers enables the agony of Spain and China to continue.

But they will also march with a feeling of pride in the knowledge that they represent a different England from that of Chamberlain.

They represent the England whose gallant sons once marched behind Garibaldi in the fight for a free united Italy.

They represent the England of the dockers who in 1922 gave the lead to a series of acts of international solidarity which forced the

end of intervention against the young Soviet Republic.

They represent the England of Ben Bradley, Philip Spratt, and the scores of other Englishmen who have served years of confinement in Indian jails for the part they have played in the fight for India's freedom.

They represent the England of the British Battalion in Spain, the England that puts the claims of International Solidarity above life itself.

Because they represent these things, the workers of England will march with pride today.

They will also march with hope, because they see the battle for unity is being won. From a thousand platforms throughout the land, the demand for the United Peace Alliance will be sounded.

The Peace Alliance is coming! And when it comes—when Britain ceases to be a prop of international fascism—when Britain takes its place in the forefront of the democratic peoples...on that day the fascist incendiaries can prepare to depart for the oblivion that awaits them.

THE FIRST VOLUNTEER

It is not certain who was the first English-speaking volunteer to fight in defence of the Spanish Republic, but it is generally believed that it was the Englishwoman, Felicia Browne. The circumstances which led to this situation were strange. She had left London for Barcelona by car accompanied by a friend, with the intention of attending the People's Games, and at the outbreak of hostilities had been advised by the British consul to leave the country immediately. On her refusal she was further advised that the Consulate would no longer be held responsible for her safety—a matter of complete indifference to her, as she had already made arrangements to fight for the Republic, and forthwith enrolled in the Militia.

Her intense fervour for the cause of the people had created an unfavourable atmosphere amongst her circle some years previously, supported in her political views by the other members of her family. Throughout her life she had been considerably handicapped in her political viewpoint her surroundings owing to the comfortable circumstances of her parents, who gave her every opportunity of fulfilling her early talent as an artist at the Slade School, London, and afterwards in Berlin. She lived in Berlin from 1929 to 1931, and it was here that she first began to take an active interest in the work of the Communist Party.

Exceedingly generous at all times, at the rise of the Nazis to power she gave the majority of her money, derived from the sale of her work and no small sum, to assisting refugees from Germany.

Extensively travelled, she led a Spartan existence always seconding personal comfort and gratification to political standards. She spoke Russian, German, French, Czech and Hungarian with a degree of fluency. In 1933 she visited the U. S. S. R., and on her return lectured on several occasions on general conditions there as she found them. She impressed her audiences by her fervour and obvious sincerity.

Her death occurred on the Aragon front on August 25th 1936 while on a night patrol in search of arms and ammunition. The patrol was outnumbered and fired on by a fascist patrol. Felicia while engaged in rescuing a wounded comrade was shot through the head.

The commandant of her battalion said of her "No duty or fatigue, however arduous or unpleasant, was ever called for, for which she was not the first to volunteer".

Embodying the best principles of anti-fascism in a fine personal character she was loved and admired by all who knew her. After her death a considerable sum was raised on behalf of the Spanish Medical Aid through the sale of her sketches. In Spain the British Battalion maintains the splendid spirit of this courageous English girl.



RECOMPENSAS

Al Comisariado de la XV Brigada:

Los cuatro nombres siguientes del Batallón 60 se han distinguido por su trabajo heroico en las últimas batallas.

TENIENTE GUNNAR EPP. Se comportó de forma brillante durante las últimas operaciones, manteniendo la moral de su tropa en un alto nivel y conservó las armas.

TENIENTE MANUEL DIGAT. Jefe de Armería del 60 Bon. Salvó el camión cargado con máquinas y munición, aunque poseyera la llave de contacto, realizando este trabajo bajo un fuego incesante. Reunió a 40 camaradas dispersos reintegrándolos a su Batallón.

SOLDADO IVER ANDERSON. Por su buen trabajo y fiel cumplimiento de su deber en las últimas operaciones.

SOLDADO KARL KALKKE. Se comportó extraordinariamente bien, y el más entusiástico, haciendo el trabajo de, al menos, tres camaradas; actuó como enlace, cargador de las cintas de fusil y ayudando a los heridos.

Salud y República.

Comandante del Batallón 60, Mayor E. CECIL-SMITH. —
Comisario de Batallón, FRANK ROGERS



CARTAS para los camaradas de casa
LETTERS for the comrades at home

EL PRIMERO DE MAYO EN INGLATERRA

por el Comisario
BOB COONEY

El Primero de Mayo — día de la Solidaridad internacional —

Los trabajadores del mundo saben que su destino se está decidiendo en los campos de batalla de España y de China. Saben que la acción de sus masas ha de tener una influencia decisiva en el resultado de la lucha en estos países.

Cuando los trabajadores del mundo desfilen hoy, España y China serán lo que predominen en su pensamiento.

En Inglaterra desfilarán con una sensación de vergüenza porque es el gobierno inglés el que con su ayuda al poder fascista permite que continúe la agonía de España y de China.

Pero desfilarán también con un sentimiento de orgullo de saber que ellos representan una Inglaterra diferente de la de Chamberlain.

Representan la Inglaterra que con animosos sonos marchó una vez tras Garibaldi a combatir por una Italia libre y unida.

Representan la Inglaterra de los «dockers». Que en 1922 trazó la pauta a una serie de actos de solidaridad internacional que determinaron el fin de la intervención contra la joven República Soviética.

Representan la Inglaterra de Ben Bradley, Philip Spratt y la línea de otros ingleses, quienes han cumplido años de prisión en las cárceles de la India por su participación en la lucha por la libertad de la India.

Representan la Inglaterra del Batallón inglés en España, que coloca, antes que su propia vida, las demandas de la solidaridad internacional.

Porque representan todas estas cosas, los trabajadores de Inglaterra desfilarán con orgullo en este primero de mayo.

También marcharán con esperanza porque ven que se está ganando la batalla de la unidad. Desde miles de plataformas, a través del mundo entero se oír la demanda de la Alianza de la Unión por la Paz.



La Alianza por la Paz está en camino! Y cuando llegue — cuando Inglaterra deje de ser un baluarte del fascismo internacional cuando Inglaterra ocupe su lugar en el frente de los países democráticos — ese día los fascistas incendiarios pueden prepararse para ser totalmente aniquilados.

MADRE PATRIA

Alguien nos ha dicho que hemos conocido a España en su época peor. ¡Qué más lejos de ello! Es cierto no la conocimos en tiempos de sus fiestas y procesiones, pero la hemos conocido más grande, menos pintoresca, pero más noble, menos alegre pero más conjurada.

A nosotros, Latino-Americanos, al venir a la Península hemos encontrado y sentido la sensación de salir del terruño, pasar por algunos países extranjeros y al llegar a España como pisar tierra de nuestra Patria.

Entonces comprendemos más que nunca por qué allá en América llamamos a España, MADRE PATRIA.

Heredamos de España su sangre, sus costumbres, su idioma y también sus parásitos; por eso la comprendemos mejor en su momento actual.

Hemos sentido los azotes del sable militarista, los golpes del ciliicio y disciplina clericales y la hipócrita explotación de la Iglesia y sus aliadas la Burguesía y la Aristocracia.

Por esto estamos aquí, dispuestos a lo que venga; nuestras son también las penas del obrero y campesino español; cantamos, lanzamos gritos de alegría y nos quejamos en la misma lengua.

Son nuestros los sueños del Quijote, preñados de idealismos, somos hijos pródigos que regresamos al hogar, no contritos ni arrepentidos, sino alegres y optimistas, que venimos a ayudar en la limpieza de la vieja casa paterna.

¡SALUD, MADRE PATRIA!

Teniente M. Valenzuela,
24 Batallón.



COSECHANDO para nuestra nueva España
REAPING a harvest for the New Spain

Famous Observatory Destroyed by Fascist Bombs

The famous Observatory of Astronomy, called the Observatorio del Ebro, which conducted research on the connection between solar activity and the various phenomena of the earth, especially electrical and magnetic manifestations, was situated near the village of Roquetas (which adjoins Tortosa), on the top of one of the innumerable hills that skirt the Ebro, looking eastward over the valley of Tortosa. The hill, which was arid and white when the director began work there, is today covered with a green and luxuriant growth of young pines. And from each one of its pavilions one saw the fertile valley, the river Ebro, and a distant border of blue mountains.

Owing to the location of the Observatory, the distance of the mountains, and the nature of the land and its low radioactivity, the observations carried out by the Institution were very valuable and sought after by scientific men throughout the world.

Father Rodés, of the Society of Jesus, was the director of this excellent center of research and instruction in astronomy. When his order left Spain, he remained at his post, not wishing to leave the work which had won him the admiration and respect of the Republic and of the Spanish people.

Some months ago the fascist ra-

dio spread the story that he had been assassinated at the beginning of the rebellion. But the story was soon contradicted when a journalist visited Tortosa and spoke with Father Rodés himself.

In an interesting conversation with the reporter, Father Rodés said:

"I believe that freedom is the highest quality God has given man and that it elevates him most in the order of creation. We must be able to make use of our faculty of discriminating and determining our own actions."

Father Rodés is not an indecisive man. He is faithful to his religious vocation, and said:

"While I dedicate the major part of my efforts to science, I do not lose my character (as a priest). I believe now that religion is propagated by conviction and not by force. I have always had respect for others, and they in turn have given me proof of their respect. Not long ago I received a letter from a Russian astronomer in which he said: 'God protect you and your Institution'."

After stating that the military insurrection and the war came as a great surprise to him, he said:

"I was in Tarragona at the time of the outbreak of the insurrection, where I had gone to buy some indispensable articles for the Observa-

tory. It began on a Saturday, and I remained in Tarragona until Monday. I went through the streets in my priestly garments, and no one called attention to me or molested me in the least. There I learned what had occurred in Barcelona. I went to Tortosa, walking through the city as if it were Ferrerías or Roquetas, and people did not react at all to my presence."

"Did anything happen later at the Observatory?"

"The entire Observatory, that is, its buildings and its personnel, have been respected by all. Armed patrols from Barcelona visited us on two separate occasions. I told them, 'You see before you a friend of the people and a friend of the workers', inviting them to visit the Observatory. They found only books and scientific apparatus, and saw that we were living very modestly. On taking leave, each of these patrols offered us a guard for the protection of the Observatory. After thanking them for their kindness, I replied, 'It seems to me better that the work we do should be our defense.'"

On being asked how the Government of the Republic maintained the Observatory and its teaching staff, he replied:

"Very well, very well. There has been no interruption in the funds provided nor in consideration for

our personal welfare. No government under another regime could have been more generous."

It is difficult at present to estimate the value of the contents of the Observatory. There was nothing lacking in the way of modern, costly, and excellent scientific apparatus. On the 8th of this month, however, the work of the Observatory was ended. Early that morning five fascist trimotor planes, arriving from Pollensa, hurled more than a hundred bombs at the buildings and towers of the Observatory, and apparatus, laboratories, buildings, and towers were blown to pieces. The famous Observatory of the Ebro was converted into a huge mountain of smoking wreckage. On awakening, Tortosa was stricken silent with horror, pain, and indignation. The pride of the city, of the region, and of all Spain had been swept away by the guns of the Spanish fascists, aided in their criminal work by foreign invaders.

The fate of the teachers, assistants, and personnel of the Observatory is not yet known. When the mountains of brick, stone, iron and wood are removed, it will be known who was buried in the ruins. Then it will be ascertained, too, if Father Rodés was among them, for nothing has been heard of the director of the Observatory since that day.

Wally Tapsell by Commissar Bob Cooney

I first met Wally Tapsell in 1934 when he was circulation manager of the "Daily Worker".

He had come North to tell us how by new methods and hard work the sales of our paper could be raised in Aberdeen.

He had a persuasive tongue. "Saturation point" he said will be reached only when there is a "Daily Worker" going into every home in Aberdeen.

Before he left he had us all figuring out what we were going to do with the profits on the millions of "Dailies" we were going to sell.

I met him a few months later at the Manchester congress of the

Party. When he took the platform on the "Daily Worker" report, his theme was the same as before; "saturation point" will be reached when the "Daily" is going into every worker's home. His speech at this congress and hard work throughout the country did more than anything else to bring home to Party members the role and importance of his beloved "Daily Worker". From then on the sales and influence of our paper made steady progress.

Our next meeting was in London on the eve of my departure with a band of volunteers for Spain. "Tappy" painted a gruesome picture of what we might go through—shell shock, broken limbs, mangled bodies—these are only a few things he conjured up before asking "do you still want to go to Spain?"

When we replied with a determined affirmative he said "Good Luck". "I'll be joining you myself in a few weeks."

He was as good as his word. In October 1937 he and Fred Copeman returned for their second spell in Spain.

Now "Tappy" is a prisoner in Franco's hands, captured when the Battalion was ambushed at Calaceite on March 31st. I can guess what he is thinking. Not of himself, but of his Battalion and the men for whom he lived. Worrying probably about how his comrades fared after his capture. Wondering what the movement is doing at home to drive the profascist Chamberlain Government out of power.

And we who are left—what are we to do? "Tappy" is a comrade in a million! A comrade we cannot afford to lose. Just as "Tappy" lived for the Battalion and the mo-

vement, the Battalion and the movement must now mobilise for his release.

We of the Battalion will do so by the part we will play in the strengthened People's army, by our resistance to-day to be followed by such an advance as will annihilate the fascists and liberate our comrades with all the oppressed people of fascist Spain.

And while we play our part here we depend on our comrades at home to let loose such an angry storm of protest as will compel the British Government to take steps to secure the release of Wally Tapsell and his fellow fighters for freedom.

The fight for the release of our beloved commissar is an essential part of the struggle against fascism, the struggle for a peaceful happy Britain.



DEFENDERS of the Republic
DEFENSORES de la República



WALLY TAPSELL

DOS FECHAS Y CUATRO VIVAS

Días faltan para que nuestros hermanos de clase de los países imperialistas se manifiesten con la frente alta y los nervios en tensión ante sus opresores, al resurgir en sus mentes preocupadas dos fechas que significan hoy, principio y final del régimen burgués.

Estas son el recuerdo del 1.º de Mayo, ¡Mártires de Chicago!, primer jalón de rebeldías y ejemplo de cómo se lucha para libertar al mundo proletario de las garras sangrientas del capitalismo.

Gloriosa gesta; antorcha roja que prendió fuego en los corazones oprimidos de la vieja Rusia, que iluminó el camino de aquellos hermanos nuestros que hoy tienen la satisfacción de no ver en su tierra opresores ni oprimidos. Fruto del sacrificio y la fe de ver implantado el régimen de la libertad y Justicia Social que predijeron las sabias consignas del inmortal Lenin, orientador de la lucha, y su mejor hijo



Stalin, genio impulsor del Socialismo práctico hasta hacer la "Gran Nación", la nación gigante; que es en el momento, símbolo de imitación que en este 1.º de Mayo nos hace gritar: ¡ABAJO LAS CADENAS! ¡VIVA RUSIA!

También han de gritar estos hermanos de clase desde sus respectivos países y ha de venir a sus mentes el recuerdo de otras fechas y otros vivas; otras gestas que son los caminos ya andados en ruta de imitación por los tiranos del antifascismo fieles a la obra realizada en este país; y con fe de vencedores, a fuerza de sacrificios y superaciones, en esta marcha liberadora, en breve fecha tiene que llegar a la consecución de nuestras aspiraciones.

De modo que en este 1.º de Mayo el resto del proletariado mundial, que por sus circunstancias no puede luchar hoy, como nosotros, cara a cara, frente a frente a nuestros enemigos; gritarán fuerte en ese día, ante él, rostro temeroso de la canalla; ante esas ejercicios de forma humana cuatro vivas y dos fechas:

¡VIVA EL 1.º DE MAYO!
¡VIVA RUSIA!
¡VIVA EL 19 DE JULIO!
¡VIVA ESPAÑA!

¡VIVA CHINA!
M. Ramírez, del 24 Batallón,
1.ª Compañía



DELEGACIÓN del Frente Popular de un pueblo cerca del frente durante la celebración del 14 de abril en el Mac-Pap Batallón
DELEGATION of the People's Front from a village near the front speaking at the April 14 celebration of the Mac-Pap Battalion

"THE INTERNATIONALIST"

Ich came nach Spain in Januar
Yo hablar seulement English,
But jetz I say Comment Savar,
Wie gehts, Que tal, tovaritsch.

Ich faren mit mein ambulance
In woikin shoit and panties.
No tengo tiempo por romance,
Y arbeit más duro que antes.

Wen abend komt, I say BON Soir,
Mi convertures altes veloren,
Ich bin sehr kalt, but I am told
C'est la guerre, dasder kreig, there's a war on.

But underer dings Ich hat gelernt
That mange ist nicht veel.
Nosotros fleisch is sometimes burnt,
Mit garlis, también huile.

Pero, una idea es uber alle,
An idea muy profundo..
We'll arbeit schwer for Franco's fall,
Und U. H. P. en todo el mundo.

I. B.



NUESTRA CAUSA

Sobre el verde tapiz de los campos alumbra el sol las rojas amapolas.

Del mismo color, vivo y apasionado de estas flores, es la sangre antifascista que corre por nuestras venas. De este mismo color es también una de las franjas de nuestra bandera tricolor que, enarbolada siempre al frente, despliega ante el viento toda su arrogancia, todo el poema que encierran sus colores. Ella indica caminos de victoria, conquistas de libertad, para nuestra España, noble y trabajadora.

Roja, sí; roja es también la bandera del proletariado, esa gran urbe de trabajadores que con la sonrisa en los labios y la herramienta en la mano, lleva el progreso a la Hu-



manidad. Por eso nuestra causa es sagrada. Por eso el mundo admira a los trabajadores españoles, que antes de dejarse arrebatar el derecho a la libertad y a la cultura, sueno parar con el pecho desnudo el primer golpe del fascismo cruel y ambicioso, y después empuñar, además del utensilio del trabajo, las armas que habían de vengar el agravio.

Hoy, ya todos los antifascistas españoles rinden el máximo de sus esfuerzos para derrotar al invasor.

Esa retaguardia, antes "confiada y feliz", trabaja día y noche para la guerra. Hermanos nuestros han abandonado sus lugares de trabajo, para ocupar un sitio a nuestro lado y defender más directamente los intereses del pueblo antifascista. Mujeres con bravia de hombre, ocupan sitios de responsabilidad en industrias de guerra.

España antifascista entera se halla movilizada. Ni un solo hombre inactivo. Ninguna mujer sin dejar de prestar su valiosa colaboración al Ejército y al Pueblo.

Luchamos y venceremos y ocn el triunfo construiremos la España de nuestro ideal. Una España libre, progresista y feliz.

Manuel Sanz Domínguez,

Soldado del
57 Batallón inglés.

SPANISH LEADERS AFFIRM GAINS OF REPUBLIC ON 7th ANNIVERSARY

On the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic, the Agency AIMA inquired into the opinion of various Spanish leaders on the following three questions:

First: What are, in your opinion, the prospects after seven years of the Republic?

Second: What is the most important accomplishment of the Republic?

Third: What is the major error committed by the Republic?

MARTINEZ BARRIO, PRESIDENT OF THE CORTES, replied in answer to the first question:

"At present the Republic has a single mandate: to save the independence of Spain and the right of the Nation to dispose freely of its political destiny. Everything else takes second place. We do not wish to, we must not follow the fate of Abyssinia or of Austria. We are an old independent people incapable

JURAMENTO DE LOS NUEVOS RECLUTAS

En este día del 1 de mayo nosotros los soldados del Batallón Lincoln-Washington de la XV Brigada del Ejército Republicano, juramos que con toda nuestra fuerza y moral elevada, con nuestras vidas nos dedicamos a la defensa de nuestro país y nuestra causa, al empleo de toda nuestra energía por la tarea de perfeccionarnos como soldados y prepararnos para las próximas ofensivas que barreran los fascistas invasores de la tierra española para siempre.

Juramos de resistir hoy, para que mañana podamos atacar y conquistar.

was that it wished to lower the Spaniard's dignity, that it wished to deliver the Fatherland over to the covetousness and tutelage of foreign countries."

In answer to the third question on the major error committed by the Republic Martínez Barrio said:

"The greatest error of the Republic was its trusting acceptance of the word of honor of its mortal enemies. The entire apparatus of the State, except the portfolios of the Ministries and the civil Governments, remained in the hands of the servants of the monarchy after the Republic was set up.

"Their empty and solemn word of honor sufficed us as a pledge of loyalty. Their word of honor!

"In 1931 they abandoned Don Alfonso; in 1936 they betrayed the Republic. With the exception of the traditional Carlists, who did not lower their banner and other monarchists who remained loyal to their convictions, all the rebels, from those in the Army down, deserve the condemnation of their fellow-citizens and the disclaim of history. History will certainly not be more charitable than the Spanish people, who are ashamed of these people who, in addition to betraying their country, have delivered it to foreign nations.

"In their simplicity the Republicans forgot Spanish history of the 19th century. Their terrible simplicity resulted in a most barbaric and destructive war, invoked without explanation or justification on our national soil."

DON ANTONIO VELAZO, the Minister of Public Works, replied to the first question as follows:

"The Republic was founded with much joy. The inexperience on which this joy was based, occasioned bitter and sad mistakes. These in turn gave the Republic the experience that was lacking; and today, in a period of great seriousness - we will never say desperation - its suffering makes it wiser. Once the people overcome the present difficulties, they will open the way to a future Republic based not on charity, which is the injuring weapon of reaction, but on social jus-

tice and the highest aspirations of men who love freedom."

In reply to the second question, he said:

"It was the aim of the Republic to destroy the power of the militarists, the clergy, and the caciques, the three pillars of a system of medieval capitalist privilege. Military reform, constitutional laicisation, and agrarian reform were the means by which the Cortes Constituent wished to accomplish this great task. For the Republic was born without bloodshed, and the Republic wished to carry out its reforms in a normal manner, but the bishop, the landowner, and the general, true to their traditions prevented this."

On the third question he said:

The great error of the Republic was that it permitted injury to the weapons the people had prepared. The dramatic experience through which it is passing will greatly improve its future work."

RAMON LAMONEDA, Secretary of the Socialist Party of Spain, replied to the first question:

"During these last seven years the Republic has lived in the most highly important and dramatic period in the history of Spain, and has undergone a most difficult social and political apprenticeship. Once victory is attained, we will be a great nation, forged in pain, the unsurpassable teacher of life."

Second: "The greatest work of the Republic has been the cultivation in the people of a desire to learn, an urge for education, and a strong preoccupation with ideas."

Third: "Its greatest error has been disclaim for the international factor and the lack of an intelligent foreign policy."

JOSE DIAZ, Secretary General of the Communist Party, replied to the first question:

"At a time when Spain is engaged in a war against fascism and in defense of its independence, one sees in the future primarily the complete victory of the Republic over fascism and its consolidation as a democratic and parliamentary Republic with a profound content of social advances."

"Secondly, the Republic has accomplished outstanding work which has kept pace necessarily with developments in this destructive war."

First, the distribution of the land of the fascist landlords to the peasants. Second, the popularization of education, and the opening of institutes and universities for working people. And finally, the basic accomplishment, the creation of a People's Army which is the expression of the people's will to enjoy freedom, to smash the tyrants forever, and to make Spain a free and respected country, the bulwark of peace and of democracy."

Third: The gravest error of the Republic was its failure entirely to liquidate semi-feudal Spain: the reactionary castes of landowners and their servants, the traitors in



the Army, and the reactionary apparatus of the State. The people wished and demanded this. If it had been done, the rebel uprising of the 18th of July would not have been possible. We will not repeat again this major error of the past, that is, the error of following a weak policy with the enemy instead of destroying him without pity. If we avoid this error, we will arrive more rapidly at victory."



EL CAMARADA JESÚS HERNÁNDEZ, Comisario general del ejército en la zona no catalana, visto por Arroyito
COMRADE JESUS HERNANDEZ, Commissar-General of the Army in non-Catalan zone as seen by Arroyito



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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End Non-Intervention Farce, Demands del Vayo as League of Nations Meets

At a meeting of the League of Nations, on May 11, Alvarez del Vayo, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Spanish Republic, made a strong speech that sounded around the world.

Among his opening remarks were: "It is both strange and saddening to observe to what extent the language of those who claim to be defenders of the Geneva institution becomes identical with that of its enemies. It is no less extraordinary that the policy of misrepresentation and sabotage designed to destroy the League of Nations, a policy employed with growing success since 1935 by Berlin and Rome, should, in other capitals, attract the most irresponsible, or perhaps the most responsible and ardent collaborators."

He explained further: "Both from the trenches and from the seat of the Government, we have watched day by day the incomprehensible desertion of certain democracies; we have watched them conspire with the aggressors; they have tolerated bombardments of open towns and the mass murder of women and children with no more than a superficial protest;

and finally they have signed agreements with the aggressors which legalize this intervention. We have been amazed at their readiness to collaborate with such enemies of international society. And it is sad to contemplate that these democracies, by reason of their failure to react in time, have brought much nearer than they think the day when their own cities will fall victims to the same atrocities as have filled my country with horror and death. But none of these circumstances has been able to disturb the serene composure with which the Spanish Government is defending, internally and externally, the interests of a people whose heroism has proved them worthy of the most fervid devotion. And at no time, not even when our soldiers, suffering from continuous attack by German and Italian aeroplanes, mingle cries of agony with angry and bitter recriminations against London and Paris, has it ever occurred to us to try to end this torture by lightening the fuse which would start an international conflagration."

In speaking of the realism of German and Italian intervention



WHILE NON-INTERVENTION denies aid to the Republic, Catalanian workers develop their war industries to supply the needs of the fronts. **MIENTRAS LA NO-INTERVENCIÓN** niega ayuda a la República, los obreros de Cataluña desarrollan sus industrias de guerra para proveer las necesidades de los frentes.

in Spain, he said. "The time for analysis and for irrefutable proofs is passed. For months and months it has been possible to refuse to look the facts straight in the face. Today this is no longer possible. Reality thrusts itself brutally in front of our eyes. It surrounds us and engulfs us. The moment demands, at least, the courage to accept it without misrepresentation of hypocrisy."

"This reality means that there exists in Europe two countries, two countries whose very political regimes lead them to use these expansive forces in a violent and aggressive manner. They have devoured Austria. They are trying to reduce Spain to ashes; they menace the very existence of Czechoslovakia, and they are facing half a dozen European countries with the choice of submitting or disappearing as free and sovereign states from the political map of Europe."

"And now Mr. President and gentlemen, I come before the Council of the League of Nations, to

(Continued on page 11)



IN THE TRENCHES our soldiers fight on in spite of the failure of Non-Intervention, but they know that victory will eventually be ours.

EN LAS TRINCHERAS nuestros soldados luchan a pesar del fracaso de la No-Intervención, porque saben que la victoria final será nuestra.



TODAY he has a school he can go to!

HOY tiene una escuela donde puede ir!

Camaradas de la Juventud Americana: Salud

España Frente del Este 29 abril 1938

En estos momentos, en que acaba de caer gloriosamente, como un verdadero valiente el camarada DAVE DORAN, Comisario de Guerra de la XV Brigada Internacional, que en esta España lucha contra la invasión de los bárbaros fascistas.

Cuando acaba de caer nuestro hermano, que conquistó con su valentía y arrojo en la lucha y su cordial y fraternal trato con todos, en la vida diaria de nuestra Brigada, el sincero cariño, respeto y admiración de todos.

El que fuera bien conocido y estimado en los Estados Unidos, por su actividad política y social, como dirigente de la Liga Juvenil Comunista, donde luchó con tesón, por conquistar para la Juventud y el pueblo en general, una vida mejor; es que los que abajo firmamos, miembros de distintas organizaciones juveniles de España y de los diferentes países aquí representados, queremos decirlos que:

En honor a la memoria del camarada DORAN, que ya es una luminaria que nos guía en nuestro camino hacia el triunfo de nuestras armas, que son las armas de la Paz y la Democracia y en homenaje al paladín heroico de la libertad,

OS JURAMOS

que el camino trazado por él, su ejemplo de valentía y coraje en la lucha y su abnegación, serán para nosotros, la pauta a seguir y que como símbolo de nuestra Unidad en la lucha, bautizaremos nuestro Club Juvenil, con el nombre de camarada Doran y

OS PEDIREMOS

que hagáis en nuestro país la Unidad que necesita la Juventud, para defender sus derechos y garantizar los del pueblo en general.

NOSOTROS FORTIFICAREMOS, RESISTIREMOS Y VENCEREMOS.

VOSOTROS UNIOS Y CONQUISTAREIS EL BIENESTAR DE TODOS.

La Juventud de la XV Brigada Internacional, JOHN GATES, Comisario de Guerra americano. — JOSE MARIA VARELA, Comisario ayudante español. — JOSE BELLO, cubano, Responsable de la Brigada. — V. Copic, Teniente Coronel, jefe de Brigada, croato. — Capitán DUNBAR, jefe del E. M. Inglés.

Calzaban esta carta centenares de firmas de Oficiales, clases y soldados jóvenes: comunistas, anarquistas, socialistas, republicanos y católicos, jóvenes de toda España, andaluces, castellanos, catalanes, gallegos, aragoneses, valencianos, etc.

De todas las unidades, batallones y demás Unidades de la Brigada.

Jóvenes internacionales, de América, Europa y demás partes del Orbe, que están representados en nuestra XV Brigada.

¡JUVENTUD, ADELANTE!

Si detenemos nuestra atención en el momento histórico que vive España, veremos cómo se destaca la juventud española, que en magnífico esfuerzo derrama su sangre brava en los frentes de combate; la juventud de España, ayer mal tratada por la casta feudal, estaba impedida para recibir los más elementales conocimientos que le permitieran prepararse políticamente para derrocar un régimen en descomposición.

El advenimiento de la República implantando un régimen democrático, brindó la oportunidad al pueblo para salir del obscurantismo que consumía sus energías.

La República prestó preferente atención a la Escuela Popular, y vimos como el Ministerio de Instrucción Pública hizo del maestro el primer funcionario de la República, confiando a él lo más preciado que tienen los pueblos: el alma de la niñez.

La traición de Franco, el ridículo muñeco que ensangrienta España por mandato de sus amos Hitler y Mussolini, encontró a su paso una Juventud que se levantó con los puños cerrados dispuesta a mo-

rir antes de permitir que los traidores entregaran la España gloriosa al fascismo italo-alemán.

El triunfo de la República está



YOUTH of the Federation of University Students visiting the 15th Brigade
ESTUDIANTES de la Federación Universitaria visitan la 15 Brigada



SCENE during the ceremony of presentation of flags to the British Battalion
ESCENA durante la ceremonia de la presentación de las banderas al Batallón Inglés

La 15 Brigada y las dos Divisiones de la Juventud

No es necesario decir que el comportamiento magnífico de nuestra Brigada, con respecto a la colección de un aporte económico para el fondo de organización de las dos Divisiones de la juventud ha sido bien apreciada por la juventud y el pueblo en general.

En esta colecta todas las unidades de la Brigada se portaron tan mag-

níficamente, que es difícil señalar cuál de ellas lo hicieron mejor.

El resultado fué que alcanzó la colecta la gran cantidad de más de 40.000 pesetas, que fueron colectadas en el espacio de 3 a 4 días, ya que esto fué una iniciativa de nuestro Comisariado, cuando aparecía en la prensa algo sobre estas cooperaciones en la organización de estas fuerzas.

Pero esto, más que el valor de cantidad, dice de cómo y con qué simpatía miran todos los camaradas de nuestra Brigada, hacia la creación de las dos Divisiones de la Juventud, que significan un aporte de fuerzas y mentes nuevas para nuestro Ejército Popular, y que unidos a las experiencias de los que ya llevamos tiempo participando en la vida del frente, traerá el triunfo definitivo de nuestras armas sobre el fascismo invasor.

Pero no sólo la colecta fué lo que se hizo en nuestra Brigada, también salieron en todas las unidades saludos remitidos a las Divisiones de la Juventud y en los que nuestros camaradas decían con qué agrado y simpatía veían a éstos y cómo desean son sinceridad encontrarse junto a ellos para solidificar esta barrera infranqueable que es y debe ser nuestro Ejército Popular, el cual no podrán romper las hordas fascistas.

Algunas de estos artículos fueron publicados por la Prensa en toda España.

Hoy que estas fuerzas se hallan incorporadas en el Ejército, nuestra Brigada les dice:

"Camaradas de las dos Divisiones de la Juventud, conquistad en el frente los honores que han conquistado las demás unidades de nuestro Ejército. Nosotros, los hombres del Jarama, Brunete, Quinto, Belchite, Fuente de Ebro y Teruel, os saludamos y os decimos que con vuestra ayuda logramos en tiempo cercano el triunfo definitivo del antifascismo, la democracia y la libertad en España.

José BELLO



YOUTH DELEGATES address Mac-Pap Battalion
DELEGADOS DE JUVENTUDES hablando al batallón Mac-Pap

Transmissions on the Long Trek

- Halto! •
- Manos arriba! •
- Qué Brigada? •

We of the Transmisiones are becoming expert in replying to these gambits. At Belchite, Lecera, Albalate and Caspe we learnt our lesson, and the fruits were shown in this latest march from Batea. Out of 78 effectives 68 have returned to our ranks. It is said that less than half of our number have not at one time or another been accosted more or less violently, at more or close quarters, by the fascist patrols.

It must be admitted that the Spaniards have it all over us Internationals when it comes to threading their way through the mountains. The way they follow the paths is uncanny. On this last march I was fortunate enough to find myself among a group of Spaniards. We made a remarkable speed. The fascists hadn't a chance. All they could manage was five or six despairing shots as we passed over a crest. They never got within hailing distance.



CAPTAIN JIM RUSKIN, transmissionist, fixing a broken wire
CAPITAN JIM RUSKIN, transmisionista, arreglando un alambre que se ha roto

Others were not so lucky. Two comrades asked the way to Gandesa of some ammunition carriers loading burros.

- — vosotros? de qué Brigada? •
- De la Quince •
- Oh, Rojos! •

The comrades were conducted in the direction of Villalba until rounding a bend there appeared six figures carrying rifles.

- Qué Brigada? •
- La Once. — vosotros? •

But the fascists were ready for that one.

• Estamos de la Quince •, they said, and faded away into the shadows, enabling our two comrades to proceed to Gandesa.

Even worse was the case of Comrade C. After running into a fascist patrol, who knocked his hat off with a bullet, he had to spend three days in fascist territory, making his way past Villalba where he drank water with the fascists at a well, past Asco where he heard the screams of women and children greeting the 'National' Army, and finally crossing the Ebro by means of a ferry, Comrade C. says that the fascists call each other 'hermano' — which is a good one to remember.

Our adjutant and 8 other comrades came across a company of men resting on top of a hill. They were about to enquire the identity of the troop when they heard somebody remark 'They look like Reds'. There seemed to be no escape. One of our comrades, however, rose to the occasion. He approached the sergeant of the company and asked for a light. On being asked to what unit he belonged, he answered casually 'Transmisiones' — and indicated their equipment. This apparently satisfied the sergeant. Our comrades moved away, mingling in the darkness with the fascist rank and file, and sitting down beside them. Eventually the fascist company moved on. The Transmissionist made no haste to pick up their equipment — until the last of the company had passed around the corner.

But we Transmissionists didn't spend all our time and energy in saving our own bodies. We also had our equipment to safeguard — our telephones, our centrals, our

To the Youth of América

Eastern Front, Spain

In a moment when a true hero, Dave Doran, War Commissar of the 15th Brigade, has so honorably fallen, we pay tribute. Our Brother, who with his valiant energy, cordial and fraternal treatment of all in his daily life of our Brigade, commanded the sincere love, respect and admiration of all.

Because he, who was well-known and esteemed in the U. S., for his political and social activities and as a leader of the Young Communist League, where he fought with courage and tenacity to conquer with the youth and the people a better life, that we the undersigned, members of different youth organizations of Spain and of the world here represented, wish to pledge that:

In honor of the memory of Comrade Doran, a beacon-light that guides us in the path to victory, Peace and Democracy and in homage to this brave champion of Liberty, we pledge: that the path outlined by him, his example of courage and abnegation in the struggle, will be for us the standard to follow and as a symbol of our unity in the fight we baptize our Youth Club with the name of *Dave Doran*, and we ask that you build in your country the unity that the Youth needs to defend its rights and guarantee those of the people in general.

We shall Fortify, Resist and Win.

United, you too will conquer well being for all.

The youth of the 15th International Brigade.

Signed: John Gates, Brigade War Commissar, American.

José María Varela, Adjutant Commissar, Spanish.

José Bello, Brigade responsible, Cuban.

V. Copic, Lt.-Col., Brigade commander, Croat.

Capt. Dunbar, Chief of Staff, British.

To the above names hundreds more were added, of officials, sub-officials, and soldiers: Young Communists, Anarchists, Socialists, Republicans and Catholics, Youth from all parts of Spain: Andalusians, Castilians, Catalan, Gallegos, Aragonese, Valencians, and others, from all of the units and battalions of the Brigade. Among them, Internationals from America, Europe and other parts of the world who are fighting in our Brigade.

wire — and without a camion. We consider that we managed that pretty well too. Out of 18 telephones we saved 14, out of 6 centrals we saved every one, and we saved about 75 % of our wire — a very considerable improvement on our performance at Belchite and Caspe. In addition we have succeeded in rescuing substantial quantities of equipment abando-

ned by other Transmission units. The final result is that we are considerably better off than when we started, so far as equipment is concerned.

The Transmissionist must conserve his telephones as the infantryman conserves his rifle. But it cuts both ways, for there are many occasions when the telephone conserves the Transmissionist.

BRIGADE HELPS THE TWO DIVISIONS OF YOUTH

Almost immediately following the fighting at Gandesa a spontaneous movement arose in our Brigade to aid the Two Volunteer Divisions of Youth.

Transmissions started the march of funds from the Brigade with a donation of more than 5,000 pesetas. The pesetas kept pouring in. Within two weeks time we collected more than 45,000 pesetas, the British Battalion topping the list with better than 14,000 pesetas and still keeping first place even if we deduct the amounts that some members of the Mak-Paps and the "24th" Battalions turned in to the British.

Certainly this spontaneous and rapid collection of funds evidenced a deep feeling on the part of our men, veterans of many battles, towards understanding the need for properly equipping the new, young volunteers.



Hello! Hello! Headquarters speaking!
¡Hola! ¡Hola! El Estado Mayor está hablando!

DEFENSE AGAINST TANKS

By Sam Wild

Modern warfare and especially the actual war in Spain has shown by experience that the principal factor is the surprise element—so we must always be prepared to fight back.

Tanks are one of these elements so we must be prepared to surprise the enemy with our defence. We must not only be prepared to hold a tank attack but also to push them back.

The tank is not such a terrible weapon as it is made out to be providing that the method of defence is thoroughly understood.

When you are in a defensive position and you have had time to fortify you will build in front of your position at about 150 meters one pit to another should be about 180 centimeters deep and about 60 centimeters square enough to allow the rifleman to turn around without difficulty. The distance from one pit to another would be about 35 meters—the distances depending on the terrain and the time you have at your disposal to fortify.

Once the pits are finished the removed earth will be taken back and the pits camouflaged according to the terrain in which they are dug so that they will be unnoticeable.

Two men will be selected from every section as special anti-tank snipers. The snipers will go into their pits at dawn and remain there the whole of the day taking with him his cold rations and returning during the night. The next day he will be relieved by the other rifleman. No one will go into the pits at night because tanks never operate in the dark.

The defensive weapons that the sniper usually have are rifle, hand grenades, inflammable liquid bottles, anti-tank piercing and incendiary bullets.

There are two kinds of liquid bottles. One which is very primitive and consists of a bottle full of petrol or gasoline at the bottom of which are rags which are lighted before throwing—the other consists of a special solution of phosphorus and as everyone knows

that as long as this is in water it does not burn but once it contacts with air it starts to burn. These must not be thrown until the tanks are within reach.

The occupants of the tanks see very little because they are confined to observing through a periscope or telescope and can only see in front or the sector with which they are mainly concerned when attacking a trench. They try to discover where the enemy anti-tank guns are placed and therefore if the pits are well camouflaged they will be unable to be observed.

Due to the unevenness of the ground the tanks cannot fire their Machine guns with effectiveness until they are within 400 meters of our positions and that is the time when the snipers open fire on the tanks and the place that they concentrate on is the front right hand side of the tank where the driver sits and the turret where the gunner and responsible of the tank remain.

If the tank still advances the best thing is to wait until it comes near, within 8 to 10 meters because at that distance the tank cannot fire low. Then is the time to throw the liquid fire if possible on the tanks for when the bottles break the liquid will spread all over the tanks and will run into the tank through the crevices. Grenades will be thrown under the tanks (front-part) where the mechanism is and also where the gasoline tank is. If the tank passes, you will throw your grenades on to the side—on the caterpillars in order to break the junctions and put them out of action.

When a tank stops never walk up to it as it is quite easy for the occupants to fire through the pistol holes. The best thing is to wait until the occupants get out of the tank. When you are out in the open never run because they can pursue you and it is therefore much better to keep still because they know that there are people there but they cannot see them and one can be assured that the occupants are very nervous being confined in such a small place. Keep still and when



HOLDING 'EM

MANTENIÉNDOLOS

the tanks come near enough let them have all you have at hand. The tanks will start zig-zagging as they go on and it will give the impression that you will be crushed but in spite of that you will remain still as the tanks want you to get up and run and therefore become a target for them and for the moral effect.

A tank can reach an enemy po-

sition but cannot hold it and it you cannot get the tank the first time you will be able to get it when it comes back.

When the Battalion is on the march and the alarm is given that tanks are on the right or left the anti-tank squads will advance and try and hold them while the rest of the troops get good cover.



OUR TROOPS fortifying

NUESTRAS TROPAS fortificando

INTERNATIONALS VOLUNTEER FOR DIGGING

When volunteers were asked for to dig fortifications in the area where the Brigade last stopped to reorganize, all four battalions offered their services as complete units, by unanimous vote. Meetings were held, either by companies, or a battalion being assembled as a whole. It was at first thought that the men might demur, as it was known that all were exceedingly tired. There was no word of protest: the arguments of the commissars needed no emphasis. Men who spoke at the meetings after the unit commanders had explained the situation rose one after the other to corroborate the importance of the proposal. They were eager to speak.

One said, this was a matter of life and death, and life was worth any amount of exhaustion. Had such work been properly carried out before the fascist drive began, we would not be camping so far back. Others reminded of Teruel

and showed how it was proved there that the fiercest attacks could be held, despite support from heavy arms, if the men had the benefit of good trenches. Fortifications were the best security against panic.

How can we neglect this work, or think of neglecting it, exclaimed one man, when we know that we are fighting a life struggle for the working-class of the whole world? For, as a commissar pointed out, these fortifications which had been entrusted to the Brigade to prepare might prove to mean the difference between winning and losing the war.

The Commissar of the Anti-tanks came running up to the Estado Mayor. Nobody had even asked the Battery to dig; in fact they had been forgotten again. But it was a Welshman who capped everybody's enthusiasm.

Why not challenge the other battalions, he said, and make a competition out of the matter? *



POPULAR DINING HALLS INCREASED IN BARCELONA

Agustín Coma, head of the Restaurant Control Committee (Comisión Interventora) appointed two months ago by Juan Comorera, the Councillor of Economy said in an interview that the purpose of this committee is to reorganize the restaurants in Barcelona to meet present needs and to eliminate irregularities and irritating inequalities in their functioning. In accordance with the suggestion of Councillor Comorera, this is to be done chiefly by establishing and developing popular dining halls.

The Committee, stimulated by Councillor Comorera's interest and enthusiasm, has worked intensively and speedily. Since figures on restaurants were not complete, the first task of the Committee was to obtain these statistics. This was difficult at first, because the restaurants were slow and reluctant in supplying data of this sort. A new regulation, however, prohibiting bread deliveries to restaurants not included in the census, had the desired effect. Within a few days we had in our possession complete statistics on restaurants in Barcelona.

Since it was necessary to present a receipt of tax payments in order to be included in the registration of restaurants, there were a large number of new registrations and payments of dues in arrears. In reporting the work of the Committee, the representative of the Council of Finance who is serving on the Committee pointed out this increase in the receipts of the Catalan Government.

On the basis of the data acquired, the Committee noted certain abuses in bread distribution to restaurants. It was obvious that a large part of the bread was not being served in the restaurants, and a more equitable rationing was therefore effected. As a result of this there has been a saving of 8,140 kilos daily in bread deliveries to restaurants. This reduction aided in a large measure in making it possible for the General Direction of Supplies to increase bread rations for the civilian population in Barcelona.

When the Committee began work, there were in existence four popular dining halls serving an average of 5,421 meals daily. Now there are eight of these serving an average of 22,000 meals daily. The Committee is equipping as popular dining halls four cinemas situated near factories administered by the Subsecretariat of Armaments. A tremendous kitchen, equipped to serve 6,000 meals daily, is being installed in one of the most central and spacious cafés of Barcelona.

The jurisdiction of the Committee has been extended to include the rest of Catalonia. Popular dining halls are being installed in Mauresa, Tarrasa, and Sabadell, and plans are being drawn up for other manufacturing towns in Catalonia.

Taking into consideration the neighborhood, number of workers and employees, and other local conditions, restaurants are being converted into Economic Dining Halls of two categories: Type A



WOMEN IN THE SHOPS

MUJERES EN LOS TALLERES

and Type B. In the first meals will be served at ten pesetas; in the second at five pesetas. Bread and dessert are included in the price of the meal in both restaurants.

The Committee has drawn up 14 model menus for each type of restaurant which must be followed. Registration is open only to those who have proper work certificates. Thus only those who are doing useful work in the rear, that is, those who have a right to do so, will be able to utilize the economic dining halls.

An order of the Council of Economy, dated 8th of April

authorizes the Committee to take over any restaurants that are necessary for this reorganization. From the 1st of May, therefore, the principal restaurants will not be able to serve any one who does not have a card from the Committee. As registration increases, other restaurants will be converted into popular dining halls.

Persons from other districts (comarcas) who find it necessary to move to Barcelona will have to explain their stay here and present a certificate from their Municipal Council testifying to their loyalty to the Republic.

In order to take care of fo-

reign visitors and official functions, etc. the Council of Economy has suggested and the Committee has arranged that a limited number of restaurants continue to function as heretofore. These are the Brasserie, Gran Hotel, La Gala, Oro del Rhin, Hostal del Sol and Cau Ferrat.

Since these restaurants are part of the collectivized restaurant industry (AIG, Agrupamiento de la Industria Gastronómica), their earnings can be properly controlled and audited by the Catalan Government. Fifty per cent of the income of these restaurants is deposited in the Bank of Industrial and Commercial Credit (Caja de Crédito Industrial y Comercial).

IT'S ALL IN THE BEARD

There's a meal of garbanzos
and there's a meal of rice,
there's a stain of naranja
and there's a couple of lice.

By the beard of the prophet, who said I was skeered
of a stinking old dirty and lousy beard?

And what a heroical setting
for thousands of «Twenty Grands»,
and, comrades, what an attraction
for fondling, feminine hands!

By the beard of the prophet, I've been endeared
to guapas galore by my lousy beard.

So let the beardless be beardless,
and let the gibbers but fret
and cling to their anti-marxistic
prophet of prophets Gillette.

By the beard of the prophet that never was sheared,
I'll stick to my dirty old lousy beard.

Hank



YALE

A NEW VOLUNTEER JOINS THE BRIGADE

James Phillips Lardner, the latest addition to the American volunteers now fighting in Spain, is 24 years old the second of the four sons of the late Ring Lardner, famous short-story writer and playwright.

A newspaperman by profession, he quit his typewriter for a rifle to fight for Spanish democracy.

After two and half years at Harvard young Lardner went to work on the New York Herald Tribune, spending the next three years as a reporter and desk-man. He was next sent to Paris to work

on the Paris edition of Herald Tribune.

His year in France brought Lardner in closer touch with political events and as details of the brutal Italian and German invasion of Spain became more and more unfolded the "non-partisan" reporter found himself more and more inclined to throw his sympathies to the loyalist side. A visit to Spain followed and as for the rest, read his own story why he found that joining the International Brigades was the only way for him to follow his convictions.

I came to Spain for the first time on April 1, 1938, when the Loyalist army was still retreating through Aragon and the reactionary press of the world was gleefully hailing the action as a death blow to the Spanish Republic. I came on a vacation from my paper to find some means of making myself useful in what many outsiders considered a lost cause. From my first day here I knew it was a cause that was not and could not be lost. Two weeks later I resigned my job and joined the International Brigade.

What convinced me that Hitler and Mussolini could never make a fascist colony of Spain were the facts that send every visitor away a confident partisan: the unshakable determination of an army and

a civil population working for their country and their ideals, and the phenomenon of a close and willing cooperation among all the organizations of and for the people.

If this war had started as a purely civil one, probable there would be no International Brigade. In fact, there would be no occasion for it, since the revolt of the army officers and land owners would have been stamped out by the government in the summer of 1936. It is precisely because the uprising was planned, fomented and materially assisted by German and Italian fascists in all countries of the world.

The Spaniards of the People's Army will continue the right to a free existence in a free country. The Internationals have even more to fight for: world peace. They know that the success of fascist imperialism in Spain would not only bring the world war nearer but would greatly increase the strength of the fascists when it comes. The longer the world delays in blocking the path of fascist aggression the more difficult it will be. Here in Spain the lines are drawn and the condition are favorable for striking a punishing blow, by depriving Germany and Italy of peeded resources and doing serious damage to their prestige. It would clearly be folly to pass up the chance.

I have complete confidence in the eventual victory of the Spanish people and of the anti-fascists. Today it looks like a long, hard battle, but any change in the international situation may give the impetus for a swift conclusion. As I write, the United States Government is considering the righting of one of its greatest wrongs by lifting the embargo on arms for Spain. I hope that by the time this is read it will have torn this black page from its record.

It seems rather unnecessary for me to set down my reasons for entering the International Brigade. The cause is so plainly a worthy one that the question which the young men of the world should be putting to themselves is what justification they have for staying out of the struggle. Some of my friends are absolute pacifists and I find it easy to sympathize with their point of view. But the situation today boils down to this: Fascism must be removed from the world for the good of all; the only way fascism can be removed is by to fight fascism.

He Was Small But he Wouldn't Be Left Out

Harry is one of the Brigade's midgets, as slight in build as he is small in stature. Even Spanish trousers hang over his heels. He was wounded at Brunete, and after that he was kept at Benicassim to pursue his old profession of cutting hair.

When the fascists threw the full weight of their foreign artillery, aviation, technical knowledge and desperation all together at the Republican troops in Aragon, blasting our soldiers out of the earth and creating a crisis, Benicassim called a meeting. Harry attended. The position was explained, simply but without any attempt to hide the seriousness of the position. Before the meeting broke up, those present sang the "International". Harry never heard it sung with such feeling.

He went round to the military authorities.

"I believe you have a list," he said, "of those who happen to be here without good reason, and that you are going to send these men back."

He was told that this was the case.

"I believe my name has no reason to be on that list?"

"Certainly not."

"And therefore I shall not be sent back?"

"No."

"Well, I went to go back just the same."

Harry rejoined his old unit at Caspe and hasenlived it with his cheerful presence ever since.

MILES



MY SPANISH BROTHER

I have adopted Comrade Juan Peris Martinez as my Spanish brother because I feel that all of us should have at least one very close Spanish friend among the thousands of our Spanish brothers with whom we are fighting every day. Comrade Peris is a type of a fellow that anyone would be proud to have as a brother.

Firstly, he is a likable chap, always smiling and friendly. He is very serious in his work. At the present time he is the Cultural Delegate of our Battalion. And although only a few days in his new post he has already organized classes in Spanish for the Internationals and classes for the Spanish comrades to learn reading and writing.

My Spanish brother has a very splendid fighting record, especially in the ranks of the Mac-Paps. He participated in the battles of Fuentes, Teruel, Seguro-de-Baños and many others. He has been with us for over seven months and previously was a volunteer in the Militia of Madrid in November, 1936.

My Spanish brother also has a fine anti-fascist family. Just now his family has had to evacuate from Madrid, so to cheer them up and I am inclosing my issue of tobacco for his father. There are also two other brothers in his family, the younger one is still at home while the older one is fighting in the ranks of our glorious army of the Republic.

I believe I shall be able to learn much about Spain from my Spanish brother, to learn the language,

ge, and more about the whole Spanish struggle for freedom. While in Spain he will take the place of my brother whom I left behind in America when I came to Spain. I have shaken his hand and pledged to him that I shall not desert him in battle, that myself and all the Internationals will remain here and with them to see this historic struggle to the end with victory for Republican Spain.

Then we shall go home, back to America, to our real brothers—full of pride and fond memories of our Spanish brothers.

FRANK ROGERS
Bon 60 Commissar.



"A TRIM PLEASE"
"Tirame un recortao"



U. G. T. - C. N. T. DELEGATION during its May Day visit at Brigade. On the left the delegation is seen strolling down the road accompanied by some of our Staff on their way to the Battalions. In the next picture (the Lincoln Washington Battalion) is shown on the parade field while Delegates look on. Next is seen (Page 7, left) Comrade Salvado (center, hatless) Chairman of the Delegation and member of the Central Body of the Barcelona U. G. T. Federation, assuring the troops that the unity between the U. G. T. and C. N. T. is growing firmer every day. To the extreme right is the photo of the entire Delegation and Brigade members.

RIO ROJO

Largo cual larga serpiente
separando a dos Españas
(roja y negra) lentamente,
discurre el Ebro.

Entre cañas
su agua de plata; su ceno,
su murmullo — ¡ cómo cantan! —
En las noches clarilunas;
bajo sus puentes, las olas
se vuelven rojas, como rojas mapolas.
Su murmullo, — ¡ cómo canta,
cantos rojos cual su España!
¡ El ceno volvióse fuego!
¡ Las orillas, brasa pura!
¡ De sangre es su nacimiento
lleno de luz y hermosura!
¡ Río Rojo como España,
quien intente atravesarte;
pasar por entre tus cañas,
¡ piénselo! que luego es tarde!
¡ Plense bien pasar tus aguas!
¡ Plense que en España Roja,
no se admite a quien, ¡ cobarde!
y hoy, — cinico —, la deshonra.
— ¡ Que te pasen, río Ebro!
— ¡ Que intenten atravesarte
para conquistar más suelo
de la España libre y grande!
que en vez de discurrir agua
por tu hermoso y noble cauce,
discurrirán a raudales,
a borbotones, ceno y sangrel
¡ Que pasen, que en tu mitad
quedarán!

Perros, cobardes
Río Ebro, río Rojo.
Algún día llegará
que no asome a tus orillas
más que la España leal.

ARTURO RODRÍGUEZ



DRESSING UP the "Chabola" - Arreglando la Chabola

MADRID LAWYERS BACK GOVERNMENT'S 13 POINTS

At a meeting held by the men of law of Madrid in the Palace of Justice, which was attended by all the local judges and by many civil and military authorities, a firm stand was taken on the side of the Republican Government and the recent Thirteen Point Declaration.

Sr. Zubillaga, the Chief Justice of the Court, delivered an interesting speech and referred to the aims for which the Republic is fighting and of its program in meeting the invasion.

Referring to the text of the Thirteen Point Declaration, señor Zubillaga said:

"This is the voice of the Government. We, men of law, must at all times obey and place ourselves at the side of La wand Jus-

tice. I ask you to stand for one minute of silence in memory of those who have fallen in the fight and in honor of our brothers who are wetting the soil of Spain with their blood."

When the minute of silence had passed Sr. Zubillaga gave three cheers which were taken up by all those present, to Spain, the Republic and the People's Army.



MI HERMANO ESPAÑOL

He adoptado al camarada Juan Peris Martínez como mi hermano español, porque siento que todos debemos tener a lo menos a un muy conocido amigo español, entre los miles de nuestros hermanos españoles, con los cuales estamos luchando cada día. El camarada Peris es un tipo de un "chic" que cualquier persona se sentiría orgullosa de tenerle como hermano.

Primeramente, es un chico extrañable, siempre sonriente y amigoso. Es muy serio en su trabajo. Actualmente es Delegado de Cultura de nuestro Batallón, y, a pesar de haber tomado su cargo hace pocos días, ha organizado ya clases de español para los Internacionales, y las mismas para escribir y leer para los españoles.

Mi hermano español tiene un

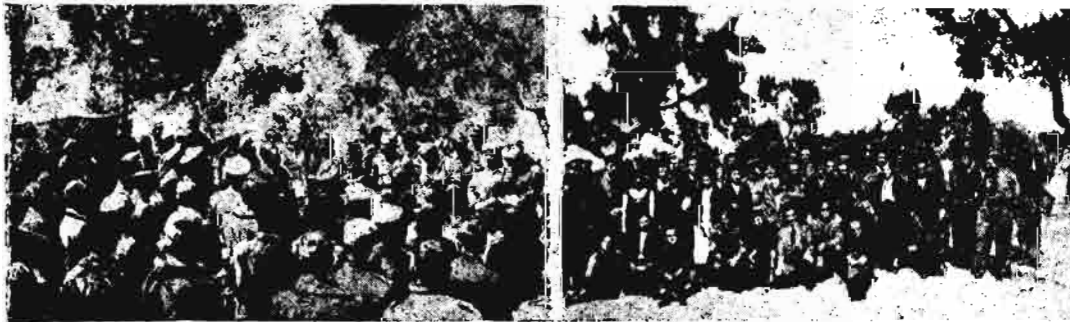
espléndido record de combate, especialmente en las filas de los Mac. Paps. Participó en las batallas de Fuentes, Teruel, Seguro de Bano, y muchas otras. Ha estado con nosotros más de siete meses, y anteriormente, en noviembre de 1936, era un voluntario en las milicias de Madrid.

También mi hermano español tiene una familia, consistiendo en finos antifascistas. A este tiempo, su familia ha tenido que evacuar-se de Madrid, por consiguiente, para alegrarse y conocerme con ellos, hemos decidido escribir una carta juntos, y yo estoy remitiendo juntamente mi suministro de tabaco, para su padre. Tiene también dos hermanos: el menor aún está en casa, mientras el mayor está luchando en las filas del Ejército de la República.

Creo que podré aprender mucho acerca de España de mi hermano español; aprender la lengua, y más, de la lucha española por la libertad. En España se sentará en el puesto de mi hermano que yo dejé en los Estados Unidos, cuando vine a España. He empuñado su mano y se le comprometió que no saldré solo en batalla, que yo y todos los Internacionales quedaremos aquí, y con todos los españoles en esta lucha histórica, al fin con victoria para España republicana.

Desde luego, regresaremos a casa, a América, a nuestros hermanos verdaderos, llenos de orgullo y memorias queridas de nuestros hermanos españoles.

FRANK ROGERS,
Comisario del Batallón núm. 60.



LA DELEGACION DE LA U. G. T. - C. N. T. visita la Brigada el Primero de Mayo. En la izquierda se ve a la delegación caminando por la carretera acompañada por algunos Camaradas del Estado Mayor camino a los Batallones. En la próxima foto aparece el Batallón Lincoln-Washington desfilando ante la delegación. En la próxima se ve (a la izquierda de la página 7) al camarada Salvadó (al centro, sin sombrero) responsable de la delegación y miembro del Comité Central de la Federación Local de la U. G. T. de Barcelona, asegurándole a las tropas que la unidad entre la C. N. T. y U. G. T. crece más firme cada día. Al extremo derecho es la foto de toda la delegación y miembros de la Brigada.



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BARCELONA

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AFTER THE ACTION A UNIT MEETS

While taking what chance they could to rest after the fascist push had been halted, the men of the Brigade, tired as they were, were not blind to the fact that an even greater effort might be demanded of them in the near future. At this critical stage of the war, the one thing the future would not bring for some time to come was leisure.

To prepare for whatever it might bring, the units held meetings. Their object was to clarify the position and outline the tasks of all.

A company had met in the gully where it was quartered. Men spoke dispassionately, concerned with practical and political duties rather than speculation. Nevertheless, when the leader, a young negro, announced that according to an official statement 200 new avions had been added to the Government's air fleet, the men were clearly skeptical. Having felt the force of the fascist air strength, they took a lot of convincing to believe in our own.

Discussion was opened. A comrade had a point to raise. He had heard a soldier, after receiving an order from a senior officer, state his intention to disobey it. He wanted to know if this sort of thing was still possible in the Republican Army, and if so, how it could expect to plan a single operation let alone win a war.

The leader asked for the offender's name. There was silence for a moment. Someone else spoke up.

• Myself •.

The leader asked him if the charge was right, and if so, what he had to say.

• I considered the order incorrect •, said the comrade. • Whether it was or not doesn't concern this meeting. The point was that I said I wouldn't obey it, and on a matter of military principle I was wrong. •

So far as the meeting was concerned, the point was settled by the comrade's obvious sincerity.

CROPS BETTER IN LOYAL THAN IN FASCIST SPAIN

The Subsecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Sr. Vázquez Huanque, an expert in agricultural problems and especially in the cultivation of grain, recently made the following statement:

• The long drought affects agricultural conditions in the unirrigated land in our hands and that held by the fascists. There has been no rain on the peninsula this winter, and prospects for the cultivation of alternative crops are not promising. Nevertheless, while this has been a very bad year for crops, conditions are much better in the part of the country which we hold than in that which is in the power of the foreign invader. The reason for this is the human factor: in this case the peasant, who is entirely identified with the Government of the Republic.

• I am told that farmers in Castilla la Vieja, anticipating that there will be little or nothing to harvest, refuse to sell their wheat and chick peas. Here the opposite is true; the farmers in the interior provinces turn over all their produce without reserve to the Government when it is requested. The parts of the provinces of Granada and Badajoz which are in our hands, are grain-producing; nevertheless they have no grain because they delivered it to the Army and to neighboring provinces which needed it, and we now have to send grain to Baza and to Castuera. Thus we also send grain to Jaén, Ciudad Real, and Albalá. The peasants have pooled

their crops throughout the country with the unselfishness which cannot be praised sufficiently.

• This is also reflected in their work. They have fewer working animals, and lack the forces that have gone into the Army.

But they have planted as much as they could. They have planted much grain and winter legumes; something less (5%) wheat; about 6% more rye (which is quite suitable for war bread); and almost 2% more barley. It will be possible to harvest these crops if there is rain soon. Lacking water, however, the crops will be weeded.

• The work the Spanish peasants are doing indicates their loyalty. They are now farming individually and in collectives which, after a year of hesitation and mistakes arising from inexperience, are now strengthened and consolidated, and guarantee an agrarian economy closely connected with the economy of production. The Ministry has worked constantly with the peasants in order to increase and improve production. Some day it will be possible to relate in detail what has been accomplished as a result of the splendid cooperation of the Government and the peasants.

• In the moist land of the Levante (the Eastern Coast) the potato crop will be larger this year in spite of transport difficulties and lack of material, seed, and fertilizer, for 15,225 hectares of land have been planted.

Campo de instrucción y recuperación de la 35.ª División

Con representación del Frente Popular del Campo de Instrucción de la 45.ª División y Agrupación de Muchachas Antifascistas de Reus, se hizo entrega de un banderín donado por esta a los combatientes de la 35.ª División.

Un acto sencillo, pero de gran emoción, celebrado ante todas las fuerzas existentes de dicho campo, compuestas en su mayoría por nuevos soldados del 40, los cuales escucharon con gran interés los discursos pronunciados por alguna representación.

Han intervenido el representante del Frente Popular, la Responsable de las Muchachas Antifascistas de Reus, el Jefe Militar del Campo de Instrucción, el Comisario del mismo, el Comisario de la División y el Comisario de los Campos de las dos Divisiones. Todos coincidieron en la gravedad de la situación, pero haciendo comprender que precisamente en estos graves momentos es cuando debemos revestirnos de la máxima con-

fianza en nuestra victoria, en nuestro Gobierno y en el apoyo de todos los trabajadores del Mundo.

Después de este acto, todas las representaciones fueron invitadas a comer, en la medida que las actuales circunstancias permiten.

En la tarde se celebró una fiesta de fraternización entre las muchachas y los combatientes de la antes citada División.

Todos estos actos fueron amenizados por la Banda de música de la Brigada «Garibaldi», la cual nos demostró, por la forma en que ejecutaba sus obras, estar compuesta por verdaderos artistas, los cuales fueron aplaudidos en todo momento.

Deseamos que estos actos se intensifiquen, pues demuestran el entusiasmo y la colaboración de vanguardia y retaguardia para ir forjando en mutuo abrazo la próxima victoria final.

SANCHEZ



EATS! FOOD! GRUB!

Comrades All:

The above titles to this letter, whichever you care to use, «Eats, Food or Grub», for each one carries the same meaning, and each one has the same magnetic attraction for every soldier. I wonder if every soldier, realizes the tremendous importance of Food, particularly in time of war, the many difficulties and uncertainties of obtaining it, also the inadequate facilities and shortage of cooks competent to prepare food for large numbers.

Our Spanish comrades are not accustomed to the organization necessary for the preparation of food on such a large scale as required by a war. The necessary facilities don't exist, as they do in the U. S. A., in England and other large countries where we find up to date stoves, ovens, steam boilers, etc. Consequently we have to resort to the old fashioned methods of log fires and boilers, which call for a high degree of initiative and ability.

We prepare a meal, not a banquet or a selection of dishes.



Though the meal is not all we would like it to be, with the help of the kitchen staff, we do our best. We try to make it as eatable, and palatable to the different tastes which is inevitable among an international body of men.

To add to difficulties are usually the problem of water for drinking and cooking purposes, and dry wood for fuel, very essential to the kitchen, is hard to get a hold of. I have stated a few of the cook-house difficulties, not for the sake of beating, but to show that everything is not always rosy for us.

It has been a great pleasure to all associated with the Comedor to hear the gratifying remarks and compliments from the many comrades regarding the quality of the food lately. Without the generous cooperation of the whole staff, my work would be useless. Therefore, on behalf of the entire Comedor staff I accept the compliments and thank the comrades in all companies; but I should like to add that a cook's greatest reward is a clean plate.

Before closing, I want to recall an old saying among the women of England and which is probably said by the women of most countries, «The easiest way to a man's heart is through his stomach». But we are not women at the

Comedor, not even sissies. We're men, soldiers, like yourselves. We're here for exactly the same reason, the defeat of fascism. And we're not after your heart, but through your bellies we hope to get at the heart of Franco and destroy it along with the rest of the slush of fascism.

Our aim is to continue filling your stomach to the best of our ability and to try to maintain that happy air that exists at present regarding the food. In doing this we know that we are contributing in no small way to the maintaining of strong morale among our soldiers, and such soldiers know no defeat.

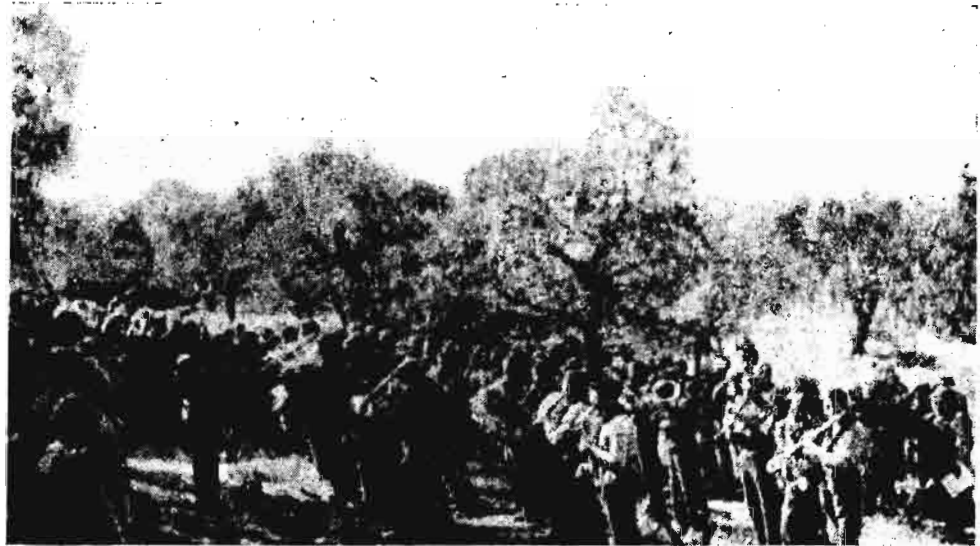
Salud.

MAXIE

(Wm. McKnight) Cocina Responsable.



COMRADES of the instruction base
CAMARADAS de la base de instrucción



CONCERT at the front
CONCIERTO en el frente

Coordination of the Popular Democratic Forces and Aid to Public Authority

The National Committee of the People's Front has addressed the following circular to its Provincial Committees:

«Esteemed citizens: At the outbreak of the uprising in July 1936 the people found it necessary to improvise committees of the People's Front which confusedly fulfilled an executive mission which History will judge in its true values. Now that a state of normal existence of the Constitutional organs of the Executive Power, has been reestablished, the organs of the People's Front, should not, under any pretext, tend to convert themselves into executive organs undertaking gubernamental functions. Their mission is to coordinate the popular democratic forces and to aid Public Authority creating a neces-

sary path of cordiality which will avoid discrepancies and result, instead, in the will of everyone being placed at the service of the Spanish political and social progress.

«Therefore, on resuming its work the National Committee addresses all existing organs of the People's Front in order to communicate to them that they must conform in their orientation and functions with the following standards:

«First. The Spanish Popular Front ratifies original aim of achieving the democratic revolution within the legal standards set forth by the Constitution of the Republic.

«Second. The mission of the People's Front is to coordinate, through free agreement, the activities of the parties and trade union organizations of which it is composed in support of the legitimate Government of the Republic, to whose command and authority it submits in all matters.

«Third. The Provincial district, and local Committees will organize or reorganize themselves in a form similar to that of the National Committee and under its control must adjust themselves to its orders.

«Fourth. The existence of People's Front Committees in unauthorized in places of work or within the armed forces.

«Fifth. The National Committee of People's Front is composed as follows: Left Republican Party, Republican Union Party, Spanish Workers Socialist Party, Spanish Communist Party, General Workers Union (UGT), National Confederation of Labour (CNT) and the Iberian Anarchist Federation (FAI). Each of these parties organizations has two active and two supplementary representatives on the National Committee.

Al Señor Presidente del Consejo de Ministros y Ministro de Defensa Nacional Doctor JUAN NEGRIN

Los heridos internacionales que marchamos al extranjero, nos dirigimos a S. E. para agradecerle las atenciones recibidas por parte del Gobierno, el cual nos ha permitido pasar los últimos días de nuestra permanencia en el suelo español, en condiciones tales y en lugares tan hermosos, que obliga a nuestro más sincero agradecimiento.

Rogamos a S. E. trasmita a nuestros camaradas que están en el frente, nuestro saludo emocionado y la seguridad de que siempre, con nuestro pensamiento, estamos al lado de ellos, animados del mismo espíritu que a ellos anima.

Al partir al extranjero, queremos asegurar a S. E., al Gobierno de la República y a nuestros hermanos de los frentes, que nosotros, mañana, como ayer y como hoy hemos de continuar unidos, sin distinción de ideologías ni tendencias políticas, como lo estuvimos en los frentes, convencidos de que la unidad de todos los antifascistas es la garantía de nuestra victoria sobre la barbarie fascista y la invasión extranjera en España.

Queremos asegurarle también, que así como ayer hemos combatido con el fusil en la mano contra el fascismo invasor, en el extranjero hemos de poner nuestra palabra y nuestra pluma al servicio de la Causa de España y de la República para contrarrestar la campaña abominable de calumnias que lanzan los fascistas con-

tra el pueblo español y su Gobierno legítimo. El fascismo pudo haber destrozado nuestros cuerpos, pero nuestro corazón y nuestros sentimientos no los pudo aniquilar y estos están siempre al servicio del pueblo español y de la República, seguros más que nunca de su victoria sobre las fuerzas del fascismo asesino e invasor.

Viva la República Española.

Viva el Gobierno de unión nacional.

Viva la victoria de nuestro glorioso Ejército Popular.

En el tren hacia Port-Bou, el día 12 de mayo de 1938.

Prisoners to be Put to Work

The Ministry of Justice is at present working out a plan by which prisoners will be put to work on roads, railways and fortifications. A large number are already employed on works of this kind. Eight thousand have been working for some month past on the railway from Tarancon to Madrid.

AL GRUPO DE COMBATIENTES CHINOS DE LAS BRIGADAS INTERNACIONALES EN ESPAÑA

El Frente Unico Nacional de Hankeu, China, ha remitido al Grupo de combatientes chinos, por el intermediario de su representante, camarada LING CHING SIN, una bandera, destinada a todos los chinos combatientes en las Brigadas Internacionales, por la Libertad de España, que simboliza la lucha épica y común que sostienen los pueblos chino y español contra el fascismo internacional, para la paz y la libertad del mundo.

De los teatros de la guerra, al Este y al Oeste, separados entre ellos por millares de kilómetros, depende la suerte de la cultura y del progreso de toda la Humanidad.

Aquí como allí, ponemos en juego todos los esfuerzos para derrotar a los bárbaros invasores.

Lo que queremos e intentamos es conquistar la Democracia. Vosotros habéis caído heridos y muertos por la causa sagrada del gran Pueblo Español.

La sangre vertida por vosotros se ha transformado en brillante luz roja de la Libertad.

Las noticias que nos llegan sobre vuestras heroicas luchas nos llenan los corazones de jovial entusiasmo, como los rayos del sol durante los días invernales.

¡Vuestra victoria allá, es también nuestra victoria aquí! ¡Camaradas! ¡Estad tranquilos! Los deberes y obligaciones de vuestra patria descansan sobre nuestras espaldas.

¡Adelante por nuevas victorias! ¡Hasta la derrota total del fascismo y el advenimiento del reino del Pueblo!

Entonces la patria de 400 millones de hombres os esperará para saludaros en su seno.

¡Ah! ¿Es tan necesaria la patria? Contemplad el cielo azul, el inmenso techo sobre vuestras cabezas, cercando con sus estrellas la inmensidad del suelo bajo nuestros pies.

¡La Humanidad está compuesta de hermanos y hermanas!

¡El Universo entero es nuestra patria!

EL FRENTE UNICO NACIONAL ANTIJAPONÉS DE CHINA.
Hankeu, 1 de marzo de 1938.

¿Se repite o no se repite la Historia?

Por Germán Hernández Antón, Comandante del 59 Batallón

"Roma no paga traidores", les fué respuesta con sequedad a los que extendiendo el brazo se presentaban ante los Pro-Cónsules Romanos a percibir el premio de su traición, después de haber asesinado a Viriato.

Mussolini, que se ha propuesto resucitar a todo el grandé Imperio Romano, como émulo ridículo de Julio César sólo ha conseguido aprender y enseñar a extender el brazo.

Los generales españoles (que españoles son, aunque no queramos) —que al parecer desconocen la Historia, pues de otra forma su traición no se explica— han renovado la traición, vendiendo a España, apuñalando al pueblo español. ¡Qué vergüenza! ¡Qué irritación! ¡Qué asco! ¡Y todo esto extendiendo el brazo!

Fué en aquella época, la primera vez que España fué ocupada con miras netamente imperialistas; y también fué entonces cuando el pueblo hispano demostró su rebeldía y el odio que siente hacia el que intente dominarlo.

A pesar de los dos mil años transcurridos, la guerra actual presenta las mismas características: entonces el Ejército de ocupación estaba compuesto por generales pro-cónsules y mercenarios; los que ahora pisan y hollan nuestra Patria son soldados del mismo linaje y traen por jefes los mismos vasallos. ¿Qué español no ha oído hablar de los italianos legionarios del Conde Rossi y del general Bergonzoli: unos y otros vinieron a España con la ingenua misión de someter a nuestro pueblo.

Frente a los primeros hubo un Viriato y un pueblo que lo seguía, con el cual no pudieron los romanos. También hubo una ciudad que se llamó Numancia, cuya historia no hay español que no conozca. Frente a estos otros, en España actualmente hay muchos Viriatos, cuyas hazañas a diario se repiten, y un pueblo más numeroso e igual de decidido, y una ciudad que no se encuentra encuadrada entre el Duero y el Merchando, sino entre el Mediterráneo y el Atlántico.

Entonces se vencieron a varios generales, ahora son lluvias de

arena en Libia lo que produce nuestros triunfos sobre los italianos, ¿y no creo que en lo sucesivo falte miel en la Alcarria?, y fenómenos de esta naturaleza en Libia? Tampoco entonces faltaron romanos que, víctimas del régimen despótico que los perseguía en su país, se pusieran al lado de los españoles, para, juntos, luchar contra el enemigo común. Aquellos los podríamos llamar los garibaldinos de la época. ¿Cómo se repite la Historia! Pero hay algo que no se repetirá, que no se puede repetir, ¡y es eso la dominación romana! ¡En esto sí que no se repite la Historia! Y es que por razones naturales, con los caudillos sucede lo que con los reptiles antediluvianos, que de ellos sólo se encuentra algún hueso de la columna vertebral y algún colmillo en los museos, y así como de los caudillos sólo se encuentran las armas, los escudos y alguna escultura, conservados precisamente en los mismos edificios, claro que eso no impide que actualmente se encuentre alguna que otra lagartija, que por eso no deja de ser reptil de sangre fría y que se dedica única y exclusivamente a cazar moscas, no sé si la comparación es justa, si comparo a Franco y Mussolini con Julio César y Marco Antonio, y una lagartija; con aquellos fantásticos reptiles, a pesar de que unos venzan a los etíopes y los otros cacen moscas; por lo demás, en todos los aspectos creo que la Historia se repite. No creo que tengamos que esperar mucho tiempo para que al recitar el verso que dice:

*"Numancia,
Horror de Roma fementida,
más quiso ser quemada,
que vencida."
Podamos decir:
"España,
horror de Roma rementida,
ha sido bombardada,
pero no vencida."*

Y para que Mussolini responda a Franco y su "pandilla", cuando perseguidos por el pueblo español, triunfante, como diminutos reptiles ponzoñosos vayan lloriqueando y extendiendo el brazo a solicitar caridad de sus amos: ¡Roma no paga traidores!!!



CHINESE COMRADES who are presently in a hospital and are being treated for wounds received while fighting on the different fronts. Left to right: Ling Ching Sin, Liao Wa Fon y Chan Chi.

He aquí, entre otros, algunos camaradas chinos reunidos en un hospital donde están en tratamiento, habiendo sido heridos en los diferentes frentes.

MAY DAY CONTEST RESULTS

The following are the results of the May Day morning contests held in the Lincoln-Washington Battalion in Rifle, Granade Throwing, Infiltration and the 100 meter Dash.

Awards were presented to the winners in the afternoon of the same day by Battalion Commander Wolff as part of the field performance in the presence of Lt.-Col. Copic and the U. G. T.-C. N. T. workers Delegation from Barcelona.

Lo siguiente son los resultados de las competencias del Primero de Mayo realizadas por el Batallón Lincoln-Washington en Rifle, Lanzamiento de Granadas, Infiltración y carreras de cien metros.

Los premios fueron dados a los ganadores en la misma tarde del mismo día por el Comandante del Batallón Wolff así como parte del programa de esa tarde, siendo presenciado por el Teniente-Coronel Copic y la delegación de trabajadores de la U. G. T. y de la C. N. T. de Barcelona.

RIFLE. — Primera Compañía, Primer premio, 13 puntos. Tercera Compañía, Segundo premio, 12 puntos. Segunda Compañía, Tercer premio, 8 puntos.

GRANADAS. — Joaquín Vicente García, 2nd Co.-enlace, Primer premio.

José Giran Turi, 3.ª, 3.ª Sección, Segundo premio.

José Torrente Pastor, 1.ª Co., 2.ª sección, Tercer premio.

INFILTRACION. Primera etapa. — Pablo Fortis, 2.ª Co., 1.ª Sección, Primer premio.

Enrico Coll, 1.ª Co., 2.ª sección, Segundo premio.

Manuel Rodríguez, 1.ª Co., enlace, Tercer premio.

Segunda etapa. — Agustín García Pérez, 3.ª Co., 2.ª sección, Primer premio.

Juan Torres Sánchez, 2.ª Co., 2.ª sección, Segundo premio.

Vicente Robles, 2.ª Co., 1.ª sección, Tercer premio.

100 metros de carrera. — Juan Perez Jaén, 2.ª Co., enlace, Primer premio.

Agustín García Pérez, 3.ª Co., 2.ª sección, Segundo premio.

Premio especial fué donado a la Primera Compañía para el Periódico Mural.



END NON-INTERVENTION, DEMANDS DEL VAYO AS LEAGUE MEETS

(Continued from page 1)

put before you very simply, in all loyalty and in a calm and confident spirit of collaboration the following question. If the chain of thought which I have placed before you is as I believe, sound and logical, how can the non-intervention agreement be allowed to remain in force without committing the greatest sin, the greatest political mistake and the greatest offense against logic. First there is the moral aspect. There is the evidence which no person with any sense of responsibility can deny that the only effect of non-intervention has been to raise well-nigh insurmountable obstacles and difficulties before the Government of the Republic. It prevents the Government and the Spanish people from obtaining the war materials which they require to defend the two most sacred national causes of all peoples; their independence and their liberal and democratic political institutions which they freely gave themselves. It will be difficult to find in history an injustice so brutal and flagrant. To this injustice is added a political mistake, for the world must see clearly that non-intervention is producing a curious and startling effect; it makes it possible for two European countries, whose mountain military strength combined with the aggressive characteristic of their political regime undoubtedly constitute the chief menace to the peace of Europe to achieve with the minimum of effort and expense an undertaking which, should it succeed would render them absolute masters of the destinies of Europe.

He then spoke of the Government 13 Point Program and added: "The Spanish Republic is actuated by a definite respect for the human being. In Republican Spain today there are no prisoners such as the 600 priests under the German National Socialist regime in the Basque country who have been imprisoned for preaching in their native language and for opposing the spreading of those theories by which Hitlerian paganism is attempting to eradicate in Spain as in Germany the very roots of the Catholic religion."

"What are the reasons and motives," Del Vayo asked, "for the continuance of non-intervention? There is but one, and that is that non-intervention is the only policy in regard to Spain which harmonizes with a policy of rapprochement with European totalitarian states."

... And it should be borne in mind that their conscience would be quietened by such modest display of firmness and energy as would be required to restore to the Spanish Government the normal rights under international law. In this connection a frequent misunderstanding, which distorts the real aspect of the question, should be dispelled. To put an end to Non-Intervention does not mean that the States which signed the agreement must intervene in Spain. Although it may seem paradoxical, the alternative to Non-Intervention is another non-intervention, stricter and more complete and free from the original vice inherent in the present "non-intervention", thanks to which that policy was converted from the beginning into a means of intervening effectively against the Spanish Government. What the Spanish Government claims is the simple reestablishment of the ordinary rules of international law, that is, that its right to buy war material, of which it was deprived by the so-called Non-Intervention, shall be restored. That is to say it claims an authentic non-intervention, in which the Governments have merely to allow the laws of free commerce to operate. This situation would be perfectly compatible with the position of those countries who wish to maintain in respect of the Spanish question the strictest and most scrupulous neutrality and impartiality. We do not ask for more, but neither can we be content with less. The Spanish Government does not intend to place a concrete proposal before the Council. It has submitted its own point of view and it hopes that the members of the Council will express their effective opinion on a matter which affects not only Spain but the cause of world peace.

The Spanish Government considers that the present situation demands, not only in the interests of justice due to Spain but also in the interests of peace, the immediate reestablishment of normal international law. Firstly, by putting to an end without delay to this shameful non-intervention, whose sinister spectre taints the international atmosphere. Secondly by bringing back the examination of the international repercussions of the Spanish question to its natural jurisdiction: the League of Nations.

THE TEXTILE WORKERS OF CATALONIA

The textile industry is one of the most important in our country, especially in Catalonia.

Comrade Vidal Rossel has for many years been in charge of the Textile Workers organization. He is thoroughly conversant with its history and problems, and for this reason "Vanguardia" estimated that his opinion, should be among the first of an intended series of interviews regarding the activities of the trade unions.

"The Federation was constituted on February 5, 1927. The workers in the Textile Industry led a miserable existence. They were subjected to a worse exploitation than the other workers. They were paid meagre wages and made to work long hours. They could only defend themselves by organization. We convoked a congress of some small trade unions and formed the Textile Federation."

"Propaganda in favor of the Federation was made extremely difficult at the time under the dictatorship of Prinio de Rivera. Nevertheless our organization grew and today it has 302 branches, with 95,000 paying members. Taking into consideration those who are not at present working in this industry, it represents a total membership of 150,000."

"As a result of the military rebellion we lost 49 branches in the rebel zone with a total of 4,797 members but in the loyalist zone we have gained 60,000 paying members."

At the outbreak of the rebellion a great majority of the mills were abandoned by their owners

and the workers had to take over the mills and keep them running. At the beginning the mills were managed by "Factory Committees" and at the present they are operating under the collectivization decree of the Generalitat, by which the large factories are collectivized, and the small ones continue under private ownership, but are managed in conjunction with the workers.

"The scale of wages is as follows in Catalonia, and for the rest of Spain about 25 % less:

Technical experts, 900 to 1,200 pesetas monthly.

Executives from 600 to 900 pesetas per month.

Workers 150 pesetas for week.

Women 100 to 125 per week.

Apprentices 55 to 75 pesetas per week.

"Not all the mills are working full time at the present owing to difficulties of obtaining raw materials, but those engaged in war production and those which produce for export, are working full time."



DELEGACIÓN de juventudes



HARRY

LETTERS from HOME

MEDICAL UNIT HOLDS RECORD CONCERT

Dear J.....

Two weeks ago, some friends and I went to a symphony concert in the Academy of Music, given by the Medical Unit to purchase ambulances for the Loyalists, and you should have seen the turn-out! You know how large the academy is; well, the concert was scheduled to begin at 8:30, and at 8:10 the place was filling up rapidly — people pouring in at every door in a steady stream. By about 8:20 there wasn't a seat in the house and people were still arriving in hordes (I read that 2,000 were turned away), seats were improvised in the foyer to accommodate the overflow, and the whole thing was a huge success. I don't know how much was realized on the concert itself, but the services of the Philadelphia orchestra, leader, two soloists, and the academy itself, all were donated, tickets sold at 35 cents to 1.10, so that I'm sure quite a sum must have been raised. The collection amounted to over 1,300 dollars.

Salud.

GLADYS

West Coasters Send Check to "W. Worker Drive"

The following letters, together with a traveller's check for ten dollars made out to "The Western Worker, were found in the pockets, of Fritz Orton, of the Lincoln-Washington Battalion, after he fell at Belchite:

"Dear F...: I'm taking the liberty of sending this letter to the Western Worker to you to be given if possible to some one who can mail it from France. This, I understand, is necessary... I feel that you are in a better place to meet such people. If you wish, edit and rewrite the letter. The important thing is that it be sent as soon as possible. — Fritz."

The accompanying letter follows:

"Dear Bill — After having worked in and contributed to the various Western Worker drives for so many years, many of the comrades in Company One of the Lincoln-Washington Battalion felt that this time we were rather out of things. We were a bit unhappy to be inactive in this, the most important drive that the "Western" has ever participated in. Therefore, when we saw the appeal, we felt that we must be included in the success of this drive, so the undersigned comrades decided to send in our small contribution.

"We are enclosing an American Express check for ten dollars (10) which represents a little better than two days pay for the comrades included. We realize that it isn't much money in America, but it represents quite a lot to us here. — Tat any rate we feel that we are doing our small part. Most of the comrades you will recognize as West Coasters, but some, from New York, were anxious to help too.

"While I am writing let me urge you to press the campaigns for the aid to Spanish democracy and the Friends of the Lincoln Battalion. We realize that the comrades at home have many important campaigns, and also that it is hard to maintain a sustained tempo over an extended period. Yet we here, fighting in the trenches, know the importance of the struggle.

"Spare no efforts in your support of Spain. If the fascists win here, our job will be that much more difficult at home. Now is the critical period. We know that we can win, but with the support of the



PEASANT - CAMPESINO

comrades at home, much suffering and misery to the Spanish people can be avoided. We cannot urge too strongly that you intensify the drive to aid Spain.

Comradely yours, and Salud,
(Signed): FRITZ ORTON, —
FRANK CAMERON. — NICK

VUKELITCH. — CLIFTON (Sunshine) AMSBURY. — FRANK DORSEY. — CHARLES NORTH CUT. — FRANK STOUT. — MICHAEL SHANSKY. — WILLIAM MARTINELLI. — TOM MOORE. — P. MERONIA. — WILLIAM BARTLETT. — RED KLEINMAN.

PHONE TRINITY 4888

FRIENDS OF THE
MACKENZIE-PAPINEAU
BATTALION IN SPAIN

REHABILITATION FUND

MR. J. C. CHIVERS, SECRETARY
MR. H. WATSON, TREASURER

B. C. SECTION

Room 42
618 WEST HASTINGS ST.
VANCOUVER, B. C.

April 13-38.

Secretary, "El Voluntario de la Libertad". - Barcelona.

Dear Friend:

We wish to thank you for mailing us copies of the Volunteer for Liberty.

We greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness and can assure you it helps us away here in British Columbia to gain support for the cause we both have at heart "The defeat of Fascism".

Our B. C. boys all write very highly of the splendid qualities of their Spanish Comrades and of the beauty of your country, the delightfulness of the children and the self sacrifice of your women.

We wish to assure you that the common people here will continue to give their best to your cause.

We trust that in Spain International Fascism will meet its doom, With comradely greetings,

(Signed) Jack C. CHIVERS
Secretary B. C. Section.



COMMANDERS' POST - PUESTO DE MANDO





ENEMY PLANES BROUGHT DOWN BY REPUBLICAN AIR FORCE SINCE MARCH 1

The following statement of enemy planes brought down since March 1 has been issued by the Information Service of the Air Force. It will be seen that despite the overwhelming number of German and Italian planes employed in the offensive, the Republican

pilots, although greatly outnumbered still maintained their record, held throughout the whole war, of bringing down a large number of enemy planes. The increasing efficacy of anti-aircraft batteries will also be noted:

<i>Chasers</i>	<i>Bombing Planes</i>	<i>Chasers</i>	<i>Bombing Planes</i>	<i>Chasers</i>	<i>Bombing Planes</i>
MARCH:					
5 Messerschmitt (C)	3 Heinkel III (C)	9 Fiat..... (A)	2 Savoia..... (A)	—	1 Trimotor ... (C)
5 Messerschmitt (A)	2 Heinkel 59 (C)	22 Fiat..... (C)	2 Savoia 79... (A)		1 Seaplane.... (C)
2 Heinkel..... (C)	2 Junkers.... (C)				1 Bimotor (A)
<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>4</u>		<u>3</u>
Total March: 44 CHASERS, 14 BOMBINGS PLANES					
APRIL:					
1 Heinkel..... (A)	1 Heinkel III. (C)	8 Fiat..... (C)	2 Savoia..... (C)	—	3 Bimotor (A)
	1 Junkers.... (A)	1 Fiat..... (A)			1 Seaplane.... (A)
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>6</u>
Total April: 10 CHASERS, 10 BOMBING PLANES					
MAY 25th incl.:					
1 Heinkel 51... (A)	1 Dornier bimot. (C)	26 Fiat..... (C)	5 Chasers..... (A)	2 Bimotor (C)	
8 Messerschmitt (C)	1 Junkers..... (A)		2 Planes..... (A)	1 Trimotor.... (C)	
<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	
Total May, 25th incl.: 40 CHASERS, 6 BOMBINGS PLANES (2 UNIDENTIFIED)					

Note. (A) Planes brought down by anti-aircraft guns. — (C) Planes brought down by chasers in combat.



EL VOLUNTARIO DE LA LIBERTAD

órgano de las fuerzas internacionales

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OUR COUNTER-DRIVE AT TREMP-BALAGUER PROVES STRENGTH OF THE PEOPLE'S ARMY A Review of the Present Military Situation

Catalonia is striking back. Barely a month after the armies invading Spanish soil captured Vinaroz and reached the Mediterranean the Spanish Republicans have recovered sufficiently not merely to resist and to hold up the enemy's attacks, but to stage a counter-attack and to advance in the difficult mountainous country around Tremp. Whatever the immediate success of the present Republican attack, its importance lies in the fact that the People's Army is today in a strong enough position to undertake it. The Loyalist move began at dawn on Sunday morning, May 22, and the fascist lines were pierced at four different points on a 40 mile front between Balaguer and Tremp.

One of the most spectacular details was an air battle which took place on Monday, following the beginning of the offensive, and lasted for over an hour. It resulted in the bringing down of eighteen Italian machines with the loss of three Republican chasers. This disproportionate number of losses suffered by the rebel air force may be easily explained. Although the number of planes which took part in the battle was approximately equal — the Italians had five squadrons in the air and the Republicans four — the Republican pilots are masters of their machines while the Italian pilots are novices. For it is the policy of the Italian Government to send pilots to Spain for a few months only in order to give them experience and then to recall them to Italy and replace them by others likewise novices. That combat therefore proved two things. In the first place it proved the superiority of the Spanish Republican pilots who have gained experience by fighting continuously many months past for the independence of their country. And secondly, once more it confirms the fact — long since known by the Spanish Government — that despite the Anglo-Italian agreement Mussolini still continues to send fresh planes and pilots with which to attack the liberties of the Spanish people. It is almost redundant to add that all the enemy pilots who succeeded in jumping by parachute before their planes crashed turned out to be of Italian nationality.

The Republican attack has come at a time when it can strike a tremendous blow at Franco's prestige and undermine the morale in the fascist rear. For it must be remembered that one of the chief objects of the fascist offensive, which began in the first days of March, was to boost up the morale of the people in fascist territory that had suffered such a severe setback at Teruel. During the month of January 1938, following the capture of Teruel by the Republicans, the number of deserters coming over from fascist territory to the Loyalist lines averaged 50 a day. Ninety per cent of these deserters were soldiers and only ten per cent civilians. Throughout the whole of fascist territory the nervousness and discontent of the people was becoming more and more obvious.

The March offensive and the advance to the sea temporarily silenced this feeling. The supporters of Franco, for the first time in many months, worked themselves into the belief that victory was imminent. And the majority of the population in rebel territory, whose sympathy has always been with the legitimate Government of the Spanish people, became discouraged and also began to think of a fascist victory as inevitable. But neither of these two sections of opinion took into their reckoning the reaction of the Spanish people. The supporters of Franco were prevented from doing so, because they were drunk with the temporary success they had achieved, while the sympathizers of the Government living in fascist territory were ignorant of the resources still at the disposal of the Republic. Following Dr. Negrin's call for resistance in his famous broadcast to the people of Spain on March 28, and as a result of the reorganization and the broadening of the cabinet early in April, the situation steadily began to improve. The reaction of the people became translated into action and resistance. In the next few weeks the fascist advance was slowed down and finally halted. Resistance in Catalonia became so great that the invading armies were obliged to give up their attack on Barcelona and to attack on the less important front extending from Teruel



MACHINE GUNNERS on the look-out
LOS SERVIDORES de una ametralladora observando el campo enemigo

to the sea instead. But even there their progress has been slow and their losses out of proportion to the territory gained.

Naturally the increasing resistance of the Republicans has been accompanied by a corresponding lowering in the morale of their opponents. And a lowering of the morale of the fascist rear can have and will have serious consequences. The recent disorders at the Fortress of San Cristobal, near Pamplona, are merely a sign of the times. They show the growing friction between the Phalangists and their Italian allies. The cry 'We prefer the reds to the Italians' is not uncommon in rebel territory. The arrest of General Yagüe for having delivered a speech against the Italian invasion of Spain is another indication of the feeling of discontent which reigns among the opponents of the Spanish people.

The launching of the present Republican attack on the Eastern front will wipe out at one blow the exaggerated optimism of the partisans of Franco. And at the same time it will revive in the hearts of those millions of Spaniards submitted against their will to fascist rule the hope and the belief that after

all the Republic will be victorious and that the invaders will be driven from the soil of Spain.

The significance of the present attack is two-fold. First it is a proof to the world at large of the amazing recovery of the Spanish people and their army from the terribly hard blows which they suffered only a few weeks back. And secondly it is destined to have tremendous repercussions on morale in the fascist rear.

News from the front at Motril (Southern Front) tells of an amazing coup carried out on Monday, May 23, behind the enemy lines by which the Republicans succeeded in rescuing 308 Asturian prisoners who were being forced to build fortifications for the fascists. One section of the Republicans landed at a small beach behind the fascist front-line positions and attacked the fortress of Corchuna. Another group joined them on land and took part in the capture of the fort. On the approach of the attackers the fascist garrison surrendered, after their officers had been shot. The entire force then attacked the fascist front-line from behind and, after freeing the 308 Asturian prisoners, crossed again into Loyalist territory.

LOS CATALANES...

Por JOSÉ HUGUET

Batallón 58, 3.ª Comp.

Muchas son las veces que mis oídos han escuchado en boca de muchos camaradas, no en el frente, ya que en el frente no hay distinguos, pero sí en la retaguardia, y caso siempre la continuación de esta frase no ha sido muy grata para mí como catalán que soy, mas tampoco ha sido ofensiva ya que comprendo muy bien la política funesta que en España desarrolló la monarquía como las derechas fascistas en período republicano gracias a nuestro exceso de libertad y democracia que tan cara pagamos hoy.

bertades, creo en aquellos años una cultura que le permitía ir a la cabeza de España.

Mas dejando aparte lo que ya pasó, la historia de lo cual no soy yo precisamente quien para escribirlo, voy a exponer el motivo que me ha inducido a escribir este artículo.

Hoy muchos camaradas de otras regiones de España, por las circunstancias que ha impuesto la guerra, vienen a Cataluña a luchar, por las libertades de todos los españoles que hoy con los del proletariado mundial, y muchos de



MAC-PAPS in action

MAC-PAPS en acción



VOLUNTEER fortillers

VOLUNTARIOS de fortificaciones

Todos sabemos que en España la monarquía sólo supo crear un analfabetismo que, al igual que al clero, le permitía tener a los ciudadanos en un estado de somnolencia tal, que al inculcarles siempre el mismo tópico de la Cataluña separatista les permitía hacer pasar inadvertidos estos grandes problemas que, como el de las luchas en pos de reivindicaciones obreras ensangrientan las calles de Barcelona.

Cataluña, en mi concepto, y no lo digo en plan que pueda parecer una demostración de superioridad, gracias a sus luchas en pos de li-

estos camaradas no están capacitados sobre lo que era el problema catalán, y creo que es de necesidad explicarles sobre esto ya que al comprenderlo les estimularía en la lucha y al mismo tiempo favoreceríamos al Gobierno, ya que el quinto de sus trece magníficos e indiscutibles puntos nos da materia para eso, al poner como a base del Gobierno la cuestión de las autonomías regionales.

¿Qué concepto tienen muchos camaradas de los que es autonomía?

Autonomía no es separarse, camaradas.

La U. R. S. S., país que sabemos todos que es el máximo exponente del proletariado mundial, qué es, sino una reunión de repúblicas que dentro de su constitución modelo de democracia encierra una serie de regiones que gozan de una autonomía que les permita vivir conforme sus costumbres como también en todos sus actos, hablar sus respectivas lenguas nativas, pues bien gracias a estas autonomías además de sus grandes avances sociales, le permiten conservar toda su hegemonía que le hacen fuerte.

Yo afirmo que Cataluña no es más que eso lo que quiere: y si

Mas Cataluña, con sus actos, ha dementido siempre a esos perturbadores y ha señalado su línea siempre recta y para demostración, quien no recuerda los viajes de nuestro Presidente a Barcelona?, en la que el pueblo se manifestó para poder así demostrar sus deseos fervientes de convivencia.

Y las palabras del venerado primer Presidente de la Generalidad, Francisco Maciá, principal dirigente del movimiento catalán y que gozó siempre de la confianza del pueblo cuando dijo: «ante la monarquía soy separatista, ante la República soy español». Además, ya que todos sabemos lo que



APRIL 14th J. S. U. Delegation and 15th Brigade soldiers
LA DELEGACION de la J. S. U. y los soldados de la 15 brigada durante su visita el 14 de abril



GIRLS DOING their part in the Catalonia rear
MUCHACHAS cumpliendo sus deberes en la retaguardia de Cataluña

analizáis bien sus actos veréis la razón de esta afirmación.

Todos sabemos ya que es de nuestro recuerdo lo que pasó en España al advenimiento de la República. Cataluña, como todas las regiones, aportó lo suyo para que fuera fuerte este acontecimiento, y una vez conseguido esto, reclamó su autonomía, no por separarse de España, ya que esto lo consideró como imposible, toda vez que la geografía nos une, como también nuestro espíritu proletario, que ya se demostró al venir la República como al sostener la presente guerra.

Ahora bien, una vez concedida esta autonomía, ya salieron los perturbadores que iban propagando esta vez el fantasma del separatismo, para derrotar la República y así parar los avances sociales que ella se estaban realizando.

representa en Cataluña el Presidente Companys, aquí con sus palabras que pronunció el día primero de marzo del presente año en el Parlamento catalán: «Cataluña recobró con la República el camino inicial de sus libertades autónomas y adquirió unos deberes y unos derechos a los que restará siempre fiel en una hermandad de sentimientos y de ambiciones».

Este es el verdadero sentir de Cataluña y para esto vuelvo a repetir: Camarada, capacitate sobre el problema de las autonomías, para que cuando una vez termine la guerra con la victoria del pueblo, que es la nuestra, volver a tu región y ser un entusiasta propagandista de las autonomías regionales y destruyas la poca semilla que quede de aquellas propagandas que sólo servirán para desorientarte.

THE STORY OF THE 43rd DIVISION



NEGRIN

Dr. Juan Negrín, the Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, recently visited the brave soldiers of the 43rd Division who are fighting in the Pyrenees. He was accompanied by General Vicente Rojo, Chief of the Central General Staff, Lieutenant Colonel Beltrán, Commander of the 43rd Division, made a speech to the troops and introduced their visitors:

«Comrades of the 43rd Division: We have among us two of the representative figures of our people who bring the greetings of the Government and the Army.

«The best answer we can give to our enemies when they stated that our Government had forgotten us, is the presence of Dr. Negrín and General Rojo, who have come in person to express the admiration of Republican Spain for our exploits and for the way in which we have fulfilled our duty in defense of the independence of our country.

«There is no room in our ranks for the weak, the doubtful or the cowards.

«Today, stronger than ever, we shall repeat before comrades Negrín and Rojo, so that they may convey our words to the rest of the army in Catalonia and Spain, that the soldiers of the 43rd are willing to fight on until final victory is ours.»

The fascist invasion has suffered 15,000 casualties in its battles against the 43rd Division, whose deeds have been duly credited and rewarded by the Government with the promotion of its chief and the granting of the «Medal for Valor» to the Division as a whole.

The outlook for the future is equally bad for the enemy. Resistance is our best arm. The 43rd Division says so; and as a proof of their assertion, there is the figure of the 15,000 casualties suffered by the enemy.

The enemy's pressure increased every moment against one of the positions defended by the 43rd in the Pyrenees. One of the chiefs ordered a withdrawal. That position

was practically isolated from the rest of the loyal forces. The only possible contact, or anything that may be considered as such, was a veritable rain of shells and mortar grenades. Breathing was difficult. The atmosphere was asphyxiating. The dense clouds raised by the explosions were thicker and thicker. The echo of the explosions recoiled from peak to peak, from mountain to valley, from valley to canyon. Never had the magnificent panorama of the beautiful Pyrenees witnessed such strife. The tranquillity of centuries had been suddenly plunged into a terrific convulsion.

There were times when the front defended by these scanty forces stretched nearly one hundred kilometers. Any yet it had to be extended further and further, making the situation critical.

The 43rd Division did not give in. Yet in a nearby sector the outlook was not so promising. The line was still stretching.

The answer was not difficult to find. The men of the 43rd did not waver. We are ready, they said (and the voice was collective, not individual) to defend the Republic and its Government until the end.

There were times when it seemed imminent that communications would be cut between the different units of the Division. The fighting line stretched more and more... apparently it was an impossible defense against overwhelming odds. A company nearly cut off fought its way back during the whole of March 28th. It was an uneven combat. Besides superiority in material and ammunition, the enemy was greater in number. Opposite the loyalist company two whole battalions were in position constantly receiving reinforcements of men and material.

The fight went on well into the night. The casualties to the enemy seen and confirmed by our troops exceeded 150. This was an excellent balance for one day's fighting. At night the position so staunchly defended during the day was abandoned. It was impossible to hold, taking into consideration the enormous front and the fact that every one of the units of the Division had enough enemy troops in front



DURING A LULL in the action - DURANTE un momento de calma

of its own trenches to send reinforcements to other parts. The most primitive communications were maintained with the greatest difficulty.

Fascist propaganda told us of an unending action. New attacks were launched even before the previous ones had died out. New and stronger reinforcements of men, arms, and planes were sent in a desperate effort to force the defenders of the Republic to submit.

A fearful day's fighting was succeeded by a worse one. The days from the 10th to the 20th of April were extraordinarily hard, for the invaders tried by all means to conquer the zone of High Aragon, defended by the 43rd Division under the energetic leadership of Lieutenant-Colonel Beltrán. The enemy failed to understand how that desperate resistance could last. And in order to overcome it, they accumulated arms, and still more arms and troops, especially artillery, which during hours on end sent barrage after barrage over our lines to clear the way for the infantry.

Their continuous attacks were beaten back time and again, and their casualties mounted by the second. In these ten days the fascists lost 5,000 men, amounting to a third part of their total losses during the period of resistance. Their

tactics were always the same. First barrages of Artillery, and then the infantry.

The enemy depended on their superior arms to submit the whole Division. Infantry was brought into the battle only when it was thought impossible for any resistance to oppose them, for they imagined that whole sectors of the 43rd Division ought to have been pulverized. As no fire came from the Republican lines, they were convinced that the time was ripe for an assault. When they came out of cover into the open and at close range, Republican machine guns took their toll, hundreds and thousands of the enemy fell.

Our soldiers learned to fight in the right way. While insurgent artillery and planes were bombing our positions, our infantry took cover among the boulders, in crevices and behind rocks. The very moment that the enemy's preparation came to a lull indicating the imminence of the attack, our men would rush to their posts, man the machine guns and cut up lanes in the enemy's ranks. When the insurgents were near enough, the hand grenade and the bayonet attack would put an end to the insurgents' approach.

In the zone defended by the 43rd Division, it was felt necessary from the very beginning to evacuate the civilian population and the thousand or so shepherds and flocks in Upper Aragon and the lower Pyrenees. Therefore, while fighting back the onslaught of the enemy, the troops succeeded in getting the majority of women, children, and old men over the French frontier, and in 26 days some 6,000 persons were evacuated.

The soldiers carried the children in their arms along the canyons and steep hills, crossing over the snow-covered passes at heights ranging between 7,000 and 10,000 feet above sea level.

At the same time the work of recuperating material went on incessantly, picking up the arms abandoned by other forces, including provisions, ammunition, supplies, etc., and not the least important, rounding up the cattle that the fury of battle had sent scattering to the four winds.

PEASANTS' WIVES making clothing for the front
LAS MUJERES de los Campesinos hacen ropas para el frente

NIGHT OPERATIONS

By Captain Patrick O'Daire
Commander Company 1, British Battalion

Operations after dark fall into three classes: night marches, night advances or withdrawals, and night attacks. All of these movements, with the exception of marches by night to avoid the heat of day, are counted as tactical night operations.

NIGHT MARCHES

Owing to the improved efficiency and increased use of aircraft, night marches are more common today than ever before. In fact, according to some authorities, the time is near when large bodies of men will be able to move only at night.

The carrying out of a night march depends on whether it is covered or not; that is to say, whether it is behind troops already in position or not. But all night marches have this in common—they are slow and tiring, and there is the continual danger of losing contact and direction.

Night marches may be undertaken to (1) concentrate troops at some decisive point; (2) move troops from one part of a front to another; (3) effect a withdrawal to avoid a serious engagement.

In reconnoitering for a night march under cover of other troops, the route should be examined both by night and by day. If the route follows a road it may be necessary to post men at a branch-road, if any, to prevent straying. At least these points should be marked in advance. If the march is across country the route should be fixed by compass bearings. All landmarks visible in darkness should be noted and distances calculated, so that the position of the column may be ascertained at need. The general direction can be kept by the stars. Every soldier should know enough about the stars to be able to get his bearings by them.

In night marches unprotected by other troops, there must be no risk of the column meeting the enemy while in march formation. It must therefore be protected by small advance guards at reduced distances. These distances should be stated in the march order.

When a night march is to be followed by an attack, an *assembly*

position will be selected, at which point the column will go from march formation into deployment. This assembly position must be well protected and be such that the deployment can be made at right angles to the subsequent line of advance. It must be well reconnoitered and its appearance by night determined.

Important principles are that (1) every commander has a fixed place in the column where he will remain; (2) an officer (the second in command or adjutant) will march in the rear of the unit; (3) hours of halt must be fixed beforehand, and no unit will halt until it has regained any distance it has lost; (4) during halts men may lie down but may not leave the ranks; (5) a unit crossing an obstacle will advance its own length and halt in front until the whole column has crossed.

NIGHT ADVANCES

These are movements forward by troops already deployed with a view to making a surprise attack or to occupy a position from which to attack at dawn. However, a night advance which is unprotected by covering troops is a dangerous operation. It should be made only in special cases, and for short distances. The formation taken at the assembly position will be that in which the rest of the march will be made. If an attack is to follow there may be slight changes in the formation at the forming-up place.

In the case of a night advance and night attack, a thorough reconnoissance is essential. The rate of march will seldom exceed two kilometers an hour. If obstacles are met, the troops will lie down until a passage has been cleared. Advancing troops must put out detachments for security and ground reconnoitering.

As in all night operations, during night advances there will be no smoking, talking, showing of lights or firing of rifles. The greatest precautions must be taken against noise of any kind, such as rattling of equipment, kicking of stones, etc. If enemy scouts or patrols are en-



PREPARED

countered, they must be rushed silently with the bayonet. If the enemy opens fire after the assembly position has been left, the troops must advance without hesitation to the objective, cost what it may. No movement to the rear can be permitted, even to correct mistakes, so long as it is intended to continue the advance.

NIGHT ATTACKS

These have the following characteristics: (1) Surprise is more easily effected by night than by day; (2) the enemy's fire is unaimed; (3) observation from the air is difficult.

It is almost impossible to maneuver by night; deployment, therefore, is usually not in great depth. Reserves are best placed as a straggle line to stop any movement to the rear and to serve as a rally point in case the attack breaks.

A force greater than one battalion should not be used in one operation. Several battalions may attack different objectives simultaneously, but no attempt should be made to co-ordinate them. Exploitation of gains is difficult at night and should be left until daylight. If exploitation is intended, the attack should take place just before dawn; otherwise, three or four hours should be allowed after capturing the position for consolidation.

A night attack is usually made from a position near the enemy and against a very limited objective. The place where the infantry form up to attack is called the *forming up position*. This should be as near the enemy as is consistent with reasonable immunity from detection.

Before the troops leave the assembly position all men must know: (1) the objective, its distance and direction; (2) the formation to be adopted at the forming up position; (3) the particular part he is to play; (4) what to do if the enemy is not caught by surprise.

Section commanders must satisfy themselves that they know the rules regarding noise, lights, crossing of obstacles, etc.

In framing orders for night attacks attention must be paid to the following principles:

Assembly position, time of arrival and departure, order of march, distances and intervals, special protective arrangements, maintenance of communications, compass bear-

PREPARADOS

ings, reference points, time and duration of halts.

Forming up position, situation, description, distance from assembly position. (The formation is to be adopted here.)

Objective, description, signal for assault, special instructions in case enemy flares are dropped or thrown, in case enemy scouts or patrols are encountered, method of consolidation, role of reserves, password, communication and axis of transmission.

As for general fundamentals, note the following:

1. Maintenance of secrecy is essential.

2. Intricate maneuver is impossible.

3. Formation in small columns is more flexible than a line, is less vulnerable to unaimed fire from the enemy, is better for crossing obstacles, is better for control, and is easy to deploy from.

4. When moving from assembly position to forming up position, patrols should always be put out.

5. Troops should be given a short rest at the forming up place. Normally, sections break up into squad columns at the forming up place and deploy into line only at the actual assault.

6. Shouting in the assault does not have a greater moral effect than a silent assault, in spite of a prevalent belief to the contrary. It merely serves to indicate to the enemy the approximate strength of the attack.

FINAL ROAR

While Hitler barks and Musso roars
And Chamberlain pours gold.

While Franco does his fascist chores
With "volunteers" were told.

The people of the world stand firm
For peace, democracy.

Our army now will make them squirm
These beasts, these birds of prey!

Non-Intervention was their cry

We heard that one before.

Our answer to the fascist lie,

We'll make the final roar

WIEBE COY

Mac-Paps



AT STAFF headquarters

AL ESTADO MAYOR

INDO-AMERICA EN LA TRINCHERA

Por Ricardo Valle Cloza (Boliviano), 24 Batallón, 1.ª Compañía

El sol de España tan acentuado y persistente en la vida de los pueblos de Indo-América, tiene dos facetas antitéticas que corresponde definir. Dos facetas que se resumen de la trayectoria histórica del país hispano a través del predominio social de sus castas y luego del movimiento y el impulso creador y renovador de sus grandes masas.

La primera corresponde a la actividad colonial ignominiosa, despreciativa y vil de la nobleza feudal que en su único afán de rapiña y especulación impuso el sello de la servidumbre y de la barbarie a las nacionalidades aborígenes saqueadas, destinadas y anquilosadas a hierro y sangre, sin objetivo creador ni beneficio para las mismas.

En efecto, pese a la mentira convencional de los historiadores a servicio de intereses de élite o de casta y a la sensiblería romántica de quienes consideran que América colonial ha heredado las virtudes y los vicios de España, Sud-América, no obstante sus esclavitud trisecular y su actual sometimiento al mayorazgo de imperialismos extranjeros, mantiene viva su fisonomía y su esencia autónomas, todo su complejo aborigen que hoy desborda el camino de sus reivindicaciones en un vasto impulso de liberación nacional.

Ningún beneficio deben a España monárquica los pueblos del mundo nuevo, que no sean la opresión y la miseria, la piratería desenfrenada, la inquisición y la tortura; la destrucción de sus evolucionadas formas de paz y convivencia social; de su lengua, de su civilización y de su cultura; en una palabra, el avasallamiento total de sus instituciones.

La otra faceta que concretamente corresponde a la etapa del crecimiento político y el formidable impulso de la liberación nacional de las masas oprimidas de España, a la heroica lucha que sostiene el

pueblo español por la causa común de todas las nacionalidades y mayorías oprimidas del mundo, es la que los indo-americanos saludamos con orgullo y con calor porque su nervio libertador gravita en la entraña viva de la América aborigen engendrando ideales de justicia, de libertad y de grandeza.

Es la etapa de la España auténtica y grande, creadora y viril que con la inmolación y sacrificio de sus hijos ilumina el camino a seguir para las conquistas definitivas que darán paz y bienes a la humanidad toda. Es la etapa de la liberación americana bajo el pendón glorioso de la España republicana del Frente Popular. De la emancipación de la América nuestra que quiere vivir sin yugos interiores ni exteriores, con todo la plenitud de sus derechos económicos, políticos y sociales. Por esto Indo-América está presente en la trinchera a través de sus militantes de vanguardia y de la ayuda solidaria de las masas trabajadoras que desde México al Cabo de Hornos tienen cifrada su esperanza en el aplastamiento del fascismo y de la reacción internacional. Por eso las bizarras representaciones obreras de México y Cuba, Argentina, Chile y otros países combaten y mueren al lado de sus camaradas del Ejército Popular, defendiendo un ideal que también es el suyo, brújula y norte de sus próximas aspiraciones nacionales.



June, 5, 1938

To the Bruch Battalions:

Dear Comrades:

We, the International youth of the XV Brigade, wish to record our admiration of the manner in which you have responded to the call for volunteers. When Franco was at the doors of Catalonia, when the reactionaries of all the world were prophesying defeat for our forces, you stepped into the breach, conscious of your duty to the Republic and to democracy.

To the youth of the world, to those who still live under democratic government, to those young people whom Hitler and Mussolini are attempting to regiment in their war against democracy your enthusiasm and determination serve as a splendid symbol of all that the Spanish people are fighting for.

To us in the XV Brigade you showed that the Spanish people would never have yielded in those grave moments until the last drop of Spanish blood had been shed. More than ever you have made us determined to fight by your side until there is not one Italian or German invader left on the soil of Spain.

To our comrades carrying on the fight in Great Britain, the United States, Canada and throughout the world against the reactionary forces, you have imparted fresh vigor in the drive which must ultimately dislodge the fascists and pro-fascists from their seats of power at home.

For all of this we convey our thanks to you, our Spanish brothers. Drawn still closer together by your action and courage, we reassert our determination never to rest until fascism is defeated forever.

Salud y Victoria.



J. S. U. NATIONAL LEADERS. Santiago Carrillo, (with glasses) is the General-Secretary.

JEFES DE LA J. S. U. Santiago Carrillo, (con gafas) es el Secretario-General.

J. S. U. Conference held at Brigade

A conference of representatives of the Juventud Socialista Unificada in the 15th Brigade was held on Sunday, June 5th. Practically all units of the brigade were represented. Also present were members of other political viewpoints in the brigade, including delegations of the Young Libertarians (Anarchist youth organization), the Left Republican Youth, the youth members of the U. G. T. - C. N. T. joint commission, and a local representative of the P. S. U. C.

The keynote address was delivered by Comrade José Bello, general secretary of the 15th Brigade J. S. U. Calling for unity on the broadest possible base, he welcomed participation in the conference by the members of the other political groups. He showed how unity could best be advanced by forming an Anti-Fascist Youth Alliance within the brigade, a union which has already come into existence in the Lincoln-Washington Battalion with gratifying results.

Comrade Mullor, organization secretary, rendered a report on the activity and structure of the Brigade J. S. U., indicating how far-reaching the organization is. As an example he cited its appeal for donations to the two divisions of youth at the time they were formed recently from among volunteers below recruiting age in all parts of Loyalist Spain. Contributions in the brigade brought in the sum of 45,000 pesetas.

After a brief address by Captain Hernández, young commander of the 59th Battalion, a general discussion took place. Although various subjects were introduced, the main question was the formation of the Anti-Fascist Youth Alliance. Comrade Maury, company commissar in the 59th Battalion, made a stirring appeal for volunteer units to assist in the approaching wheat harvest, much of which will take place close to the front lines.

A brigade committee was elected, consisting of Comrade Bello, general secretary, Comrade Mullor, organization secretary, Comrade

Cirvera and Comrade M. L. Miller, press secretaries, and Captain Hernández, military adviser.

Comrade José Tomas, the division representative, summed up the results of the meeting. He emphasized that the J. S. U. must give all possible effort toward the forming of the Anti-Fascist Youth Alliance, that its main work consisted in organizing youth clubs open to all youth which should stimulate and guide social, cultural and sports activity. Concrete tasks, he said, were to organize fiestas, arrange football tournaments and build up libraries. Every aid should be given to commanders and commissars, specific suggestions being the formation of anti-tank, anti-avion, guerrillero, anti-illiteracy and wheat-harvesting units.

Of genuine significance in the discussion and in the results of the conference were the contributions of the Young Libertarians and Left Republican Youth representatives. They promised that their bodies would join in forming the brigade Anti-Fascist Youth Alliance. The conference closed with resolutions to send greetings to the central committee of the J. S. U. and to the Bruch Battalions.



"NUESTRA CONFIANZA EN I

por LUIK

Comisario - Inspector de



BATTALION Formation
BATALLÓN en formación

Hace dos meses les parecía a los amigos de Franco que a la ofensiva fascista nadie podría resistirla.

Llegando al mar, los fascistas creían que la resistencia Republicana se derrumbaría; que el Gobierno, el Ejército y el Pueblo se doblegarían a su voluntad.

Han pasado dos meses; los fascistas han llegado al mar; Gobierno, Ejército y Pueblo, en una estrecha unión, levantan más fuerte que nunca una barrera infranqueable ante el enemigo.

De los reveses militares ha surgido una voluntad inquebrantable de unidad y de resistencia, de la que el Comité de Enlace entre C. N. T. y U. G. T. y el Gobierno de Unión Nacional que ha sido constituido son la mejor demostración.

Contra la prevalencia fascista el pueblo ha respondido movilizándose, en las fábricas y en el Frente.

100.000 nuevos voluntarios han pedido las armas para la defensa del suelo patrio. 50.000 voluntarios se han ofrecido para levantar nuevas barreras ante la invasión extranjera. Nuevas quintas ingresan en el Ejército y éste bajo la guía de sus jefes, y por la abnegación de sus combatientes ha reorganizado rápidamente sus filas, templando su capacidad de combate y ha multiplicado su actividad y su iniciativa.

Desde los Pirineos a las montañas de Teruel, a lo largo de las

orillas del Segre, del Cinca y del Ebro, en las crestas y en los flancos de las montañas una barrera de acero, de pechos y voluntad, afronta al enemigo sorprendido y desamparado por esta resistencia inesperada.

La victoria deseada por los Generales fascistas no ha sido obtenida. El corte entre Cataluña y la España Central no ha debilitado la capacidad de combate del Ejército Republicano. Las dos partes de la España leal tienen tantos recursos en hombres y en material, y medios de producción que cada una de ellas, por sus propios medios, puede muy bien continuar victoriosamente la lucha.

Los fascistas han conseguido cortar la carretera; pero no todos los enlaces entre las dos partes. Las vías aérea, marítima y submarina están como antes libres para los Republicanos. Las familias y los soldados envían y reciben regularmente el correo de Cataluña, de toda España y del Extranjero. El Gobierno Republicano es el primero en el mundo que ha inaugurado el correo submarino.

En las fábricas de Cataluña y de España la producción de guerra continúa a un ritmo redoblado. Gracias a ella el Ejército Republicano puede disponer cada día de más armas, más tanques, más aviones. Y ya nuestro Ejército no solamente resiste sino que contraataca y arrebató al enemigo posiciones importantes que serán en un porvenir próximo el punto de partida de nuestras ofensivas victoriosas y decisivas.

La consigna lanzada por el Gobierno en los días de mayor peligro: *Resistir es vencer*, ha sido confirmado por los hechos.

Resistiendo se han preparado y se preparan las condiciones de las próximas victorias.

Porque nuestra resistencia debilita y desagrega al fascismo, le quita todas las ventajas morales de los éxitos militares pasados, porque destruye todas sus esperanzas de pronta victoria.



ANTI-AIRCRAFT - ANTI-AÉREOS

Porque resistiendo en la línea de fuego, a costa también, en los primeros días, de grandes sacrificios, permitimos a los obreros en la retaguardia de aumentar aun más su producción de guerra.

Porque resistiendo permitimos a los centenares de millares de nuevos combatientes que ingresan en el Ejército de aprender el manejo de las armas y el arte de la guerra.

Porque resistiendo galvanizamos el espíritu de resistencia de todo el pueblo y le hacemos capaz de los mayores sacrificios y al mismo tiempo se eleva en el mundo entero una ola de simpatía por nuestra Causa que logrará detener la mano al invasor extranjero.

Porque, resistiendo, se da confianza a las masas populares de la España sometida a Franco, que lucha también contra la opresión y el invasor.

La consigna lanzada por el Gobierno de Unión Nacional de resistir hasta la última gota de sangre ha sido firmemente aplicada por nuestros combatientes. Es porque saben ellos por qué luchan.

Luchan por la libertad y la independencia de España. Luchan contra el extranjero que quiere robarles sus riquezas y su tierra.

Todas las gentes libres de España se movilizan, en el frente y en la retaguardia, porque saben que en esta contienda es el trabajo, es el pan, es la paz, es el porvenir y el bienestar de sus hijos lo que está en juego.

La victoria de Franco, sería para ellos la esclavitud, el hambre, la miseria y la cárcel, sería la vuelta de los señoritos y de los caciques, además de la bota del opresor extranjero, no sería la terminación de la guerra sino el principio de un nuevo y espantoso masacre en el que los hijos del pueblo español servirían de carne de cañón para la mayor gloria de Mussolini e Hitler.

Es por esto que ante una nueva y mayor amenaza de victorias fascistas se alza cada vez más fuertemente todo un pueblo orgulloso de sus tradiciones nacionales, magnífico por su heroísmo invencible, por su voluntad de libertad y de independencia.

Es esta elevada conciencia política la que hace la fuerza de nuestro Ejército, de nuestro pueblo que los ha hecho capaz de los « milagros » de la defensa de Madrid, de la toina de Teruel, que le ha permitido resistir en el Ebro y en

otros sitios a las fuerzas aplastantes del enemigo y que le prepara hoy para las victorias de mañana.

Son los mejores hijos del pueblo los que están a la cabeza de estas luchas épicas, gigantescas, son los mejores y los más capaces y con una fe inquebrantable los que han subido a los puestos de mayor responsabilidad.

Carpinteros, metalúrgicos, campesinos con los más fieles Oficiales profesionales mandan ahora las más grandes unidades del Ejército Popular Español.

Como, durante la Gran Revolución francesa todos nuestros soldados llevan en sus bolsillos los grados más altos, si lo quieren ganar.

Son esos hombres del pueblo, los que son ahora la gloria y la esperanza de la Historia y de la Humanidad.

Es con estos hombres y gracias a las fuerzas reunidas de todos, que la España Republicana resiste hoy victoriosamente para atacar mañana y aplastar al fascismo.

Nuestra confianza en la victoria está intacta como en los días épicos y gloriosos de Madrid, del Jarama, de Guadalajara, de Brunete, de Belchite y de Teruel.

VENCEREMOS !



ADVANCE under fire
AVANCE bajo el fuego

A VICTORIA ESTÁ INTACTA "

I GALLO

Brigadas Internacionales

Two months have passed since it appeared to the friends of Franco that nothing could resist the fascist offensive.

By arriving to the sea the fascists believed that the resistance of the Republic would crumble, that the Government, the Army and the people would yield to their will.

Two months have passed, the fascists have reached the sea. Government, Army and people, in one strong union, raise stronger than ever an insurmountable barrier before the enemy.

Out of the military reverses has surged an inviolable will of unity and resistance, during which the Coordination Committee between the C. N. T. and the U. G. T., and the Government of the National Union was constituted and serve as the best demonstration.

To the fascist offensive the people have responded by mobilizing in the factories and at the front.

One hundred thousand new volunteers have demanded arms for the defense of their homeland. Fifty thousand volunteers have offered themselves to dig new barriers to meet the foreign invasion. New recruits enlist in the Ar-



OBSERVATION OBSERVACIÓN

my and these, under the leadership of their commanders and by the abnegation of their combatants have hardened their fighting capacity and multiplied their activity and initiative.

From the Pyrenees to the mountains of Teruel, along the shores of the Segre, Cinca and of the Ebro, on the crests and on the flanks of the mountains barricades of steel, of breasts and a will, faced the enemy who fell back surprised and disorganized before this unexpected resistance.

The desired victory by the fascist Generals was not obtained. The division between Catalonia and Central Spain has not weakened the fighting capacity of the Republican Army. The two sections of Loyal Spain have so much resources in men and material, and in the means of production, that each, by its own means, can very well carry on the struggle victoriously.

The fascists have cut the road, but they have not cut all communications between the two parts of Loyal Spain. The air, sea and submarine routes are free, as before, for the Republicans. The families and the soldiers send and receive regularly mail to Catalonia, of all Spain and the outside. The Republican Government is the first in the world to have inaugurated submarine postal service.

In the factories of Catalonia and of Spain war production continues at a doubled pace. Thanks to it the Republican Army is able to receive more arms daily, more tanks, more avions. And already our Army not only resists but counter-attacks and conquers important enemy positions which will be in the near future starting points for our victorious and decisive offensives.

The slogan advanced by the Government in the days of greatest danger: *To Resist is to Conquer*, has been proven by deeds.

By resisting it was prepared and is being prepared the conditions for our future victories, because our resistance weakens and disorganizes fascism, it destroys all morale advantages of its past military gains, and destroys all their hopes of a quick victory.

By resistance in the firing line, rapidly reorganized their ranks, at great costs during the first days, we permit the workers of the rear-

guard to augment still greater their war production.

By resisting we permit the hundreds of new combatants that enlist in the Army to learn to handle the arms and to learn the art of warfare.

By resisting we galvanize the spirit of resistance of all the people and makes them capable of the greatest sacrifices, and at the same time raises the sympathy of the whole world for our Cause which will help to stay the hand of the foreign invader.

By resisting we give confidence to the popular masses of the Spain subjected by Franco, who are also fighting against oppression and the invader.

The slogan advanced by the Government of the National Union to resist "till the last drop of blood", has been firmly applied by our fighters. It is only because they know for what they are fighting. They are fighting for the liberty and independence of Spain. They are fighting against the foreigners who want to rob them of their riches and their land.

All the free peoples of Spain are mobilizing at the front and in the rear, because they know that with this conflict is being determined their job, bread, peace, the future and well-being of their children.

The victory of Franco would mean for them misery and jail, it would mean the return of the "señoritos" and the "caciques" (land-boss) in addition to the boot of the foreign oppressor: it would not be the end of the war but the beginning of a new and dreadful massacre in which the sons of the Spanish people would serve as cannon-fodder for the greater glory of Mussolini and Hitler.

It is for this reason that before new and greater threats of fascist victories, a people proud of its national traditions rises with ever increasing energy, with magnificent heroism and invincible will, for its liberty and independence.



REPUBLICAN SENTRY
CENTINELA

It is this elevated political conscience which makes our Army strong, Arm of the people, who made possible the "miracles" of the defense of Madrid, the capture of Teruel, which permitted the resistance at the Ebro and other places, smashing the enemy and which is preparing today for the victories of tomorrow.

Those who are at the head of these epochal struggles, are the best sons of the people.

Carpenters, steel workers, peasants with the most loyal. Professional officials now command the largest units of the Spanish Popular Army.

Just as during the Great French Revolution, all our soldiers carry in their pockets the highest ranks, if they wish to earn them.

These are the men of the people, the glory and the hope of History and of Humanity.

It is with these men, and thanks to united forces of all, that Republican Spain victoriously resists today in order to attack tomorrow and destroy the enemy.

Our confidence in victory is intact just as in the epic days of Madrid, Jarama, Guadalajara, Brunete, Belchite and Teruel.



SOMBANTE



PROPAGANDA WAGON
CAMIÓN de propaganda



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SUMMER, 1938

After 18 months of war the Spanish Republican Army was strong enough to take Teruel last mid-winter. The victory was claimed in some quarters to mean the rapid or immediate end of the war. Since then we have met the overwhelming fascist attacks of March and April; and now once again the initiative lies with the Republic.

The present offensive has achieved success and other offensives will follow. But the events of the present half year should remind us how much lies between the desperate little-organised resistance of the Spanish people in 1936, and the successful, organised, final counter-offensives which we have to achieve before the fascists are driven out of Spain. We may be quite sure that the latter is going to take time to complete, and that they will not go through without occasional setbacks. In short, this war may not be won in weeks or even a few months. It is likely to be a long war, and we have to pull in our belts and face up to that fact.

In the long run, what are the factors on each side? Franco, we know, is short of men. Seven hundred of them, captured recently, were described by an eye-witness as being less well-clothed than ourselves. Meanwhile the increased numbers and increased control of the Italians and Germans is obviously alarming the Spanish fascists, and there is definite news of fighting in their rear. To match that we have a united Government and the resistance put up by the whole people to the recent offensives. Internationally the prospect of obtaining arms gets better and the Spanish factories turn out more and more. Unless all our political beliefs are mistaken — and the existence of the U. S. S. R. seems to rule out that possibility — history is on our side. But since history moves slowly in relation to men's lives, it is unlikely, even after two years, that this will be a short war, and militarily we have still many things to learn in order to win the final battle.

COMRADE CLIVE.



UKRAINIAN YOUTH of the Mac-Pap Battalion
JÓVENES UKRANIOS del Batallón Mac-Pap

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Franco's hopes again depend upon the Moorish troops, who cannot have patriotic feelings, and least of all Spanish sentiments. The «generalissimo» has created the «Moorish Invalid Corps» granting them magnificent advantages.

It is convenient to point out in this respect that the Spanish invalids who fought in his armies «enjoy» the monthly pension of one hundred pesetas, but in order to give them some sort of moral satisfaction he calls them «Gentlemen Invalids». The pension granted to his Moorish mercenaries runs to five times as much.

who is more of a box collector than keeper of the Public Order.

The «national» airmen at Franco's service do not know the Spanish language. They need interpreters and translators speaking German and Italian. That is the reason why the newspaper, «Heraldo de Aragón» in one of the latest issues publishes an order signed by the Director of the National Ordinance for the appointment of thirty interpreters of Italian and German for service in the aerodromes controlled by the insurgents.

News from Gibraltar says that 50 soldiers of Franco's army have succeeded in crossing the rebel lines by La Línea, into British territory. They have freely stated that they ran away from the rebel zone to take part «without losing any more time» in the battle for the freedom of their country and to put an end to the Italo-German domination in Spain. Their desire is to leave immediately for Barcelona.

An enormous impression has been caused in San Sebastián by the fact that two ladies of high social rank, the Marchioness of Santo Domingo and the Countess of Los Villares, have been heavily fined, without the reasons being made known.

Later it was ascertained that in a conversation maintained between the two ladies, the Marchioness of Santo Domingo said that «when the reds abandoned her residence in San Sebastián, after they had taken it over for offices, she did not miss even a single sheet, and the present occupants had left nothing but the bare walls.» By present occupants she meant the Italians who had established a hospital in the palace.

The Countess of Los Villares added in the course of the conversation that she had made intensive investigations to find the whereabouts of her Rolls-Royce, «which had been stolen, and finally had seen it with an Italian registration, at the service of a high Italian officer at present stationed in Spain».

She added that she did not dare to file a protest.

Both comments were considered as deeply «defeatist» and caused the imposition of heavy fines which the ladies had to pay to a delegate of Martínez Anido.

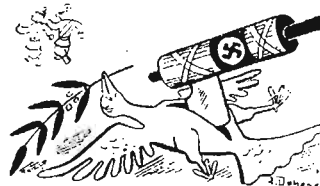
the rebel agent and, furthermore, in discovering some of his activities against the Republic.

After obtaining absolutely reliable proof of his activities the police arrested him, and his arrest brought about that of other persons, over 40 in all, who were in close contact with him.

The investigation disclosed that Franco's agent came to Loyalist Spain with the idea of forming several groups who were to organize personal assaults, hold-ups, acts of sabotage and any other disturbances that might cause a state of alarm and have a demoralizing effect on the civilian population.

All those arrested, among whom are some very prominent persons, have been formally accused before the High Treason and Espionage Tribunal. At the same time the broadcasting set with which they kept in touch with the insurgents has been seized by the police.

The Minister of the Interior, don Paulino Gómez Saiz, has congratulated the agents who carried out this important service.



IT SQUAWKED

SPANISH NEWS BRIEFS

A few days ago news was published of the arrest of an individual in whose possession were found many valuable jewels. The valuation of said jewels by experts shows that the present cost would be in the neighborhood of 50 million pesetas.

The General Administrator of Food Supplies has declared that the Government, with the complete assent of the producers, has commandeered the whole of the potato crop, which will be distributed in substantial portions to the civilian population.

At the same time it is made public that all private transactions are prohibited, and therefore all military or civil institutions are warned not to buy potatoes because the whole crop has already been acquired by the Government.

As donations for the Children's Public Dining Halls are constantly coming in, the Department of Economy has decided to open a special account in the Bank of Industrial and Commercial Credit, where these donations will be received.

Many cinema buildings will be remodelled as Children's Dining Halls. The enthusiasm of the people is such that in some districts the parents have gone in mass to enter their children's names.

On Monday, May 30, sixty more economical restaurants of class «B» were opened and two of Class «A». These new restaurants will be situated all over the city.

The following item was given in the weekly broadcast entitled: «Work in the Fields».

In its campaign to provide growers with seeds, the Ministry of Agriculture has decided to buy all the early wheat seeds produced in Spain for free distribution among the planters.

OVERHEARD IN BARCELONA



— Why do they stick paper on the windows?
— Just a safety measure.
— But surely that won't keep out the burglars?



SOLDIERS OF THE LINCOLN-WASHINGTON BATTALION
getting ready for gun inspection
SOLDADOS DEL BATALLÓN LINCOLN-WASHINGTON
preparándose para la inspección de fusiles

Early wheat is magnificently adapted for plantations along the East coast, especially around Valencia, due to the fact that it comes to maturity two months ahead of other types if it is planted in the early months of the autumn.

By planting early wheat the grower will be able to gather the crop immediately afterwards plant a crop of beans, and end up the year by planting potatoes.

The Valencia Provincial Committee of the People's Front has addressed a manifesto to the rice planters, calling upon them to do their duty. Their work is of great importance for the economic standing of the nation, especially now that the planting season is in full swing.

Laborers who had been called to the army have been granted 25 days more in the fields, so that they can cooperate in the work of planting and thus assure an abundant crop. Aged laborers have also been called upon to lend their experience and assistance to the younger men.

«Any other work must be temporarily abandoned», says the manifesto, «in order to win this most important battle, the battle of the rice fields».

«For the Republic and the independence of Spain!»

Trials for the use and adaptation of a new gasometer fed with charcoal, and applied to a truck with gasoline motor have been carried out by the Technical Services of the Forestry Institute of Investigation and Experiments.

The trials were made over a route of 314 kilometers, from Barcelona to La Junquera and return, and the result have proved very

satisfactory. The fuel consumption was 51 kilos of charcoal per 100 kilometers, a speed of 81 K. P. H. was reached with a full load, and an average speed of 30 K. P. H. was maintained. The cost of the charcoal for the journey was only 25 pesetas while that of gasoline would have been 118 pesetas for the same distance. Moreover, the charcoal is a product of Spain.

Sr. Lillo, the well-known engineer, has received many congratulations on the successful trials and it is probable that many gasometers will be adapted to service trucks.

In the first meeting of the C.N.T.-U. G. T. Liaison Committee of Cartagena, the following proposals were adopted by a majority and later approved unanimously in a public meeting:

To establish the ten hour day and suppression of all holidays, including Sundays, in all the war industries where this agreement might be feasible.

To intensify the propaganda to reestablish the Political Commissars in the Naval Base in Cartagena and all its dependencies.

To transfer to the Naval Base all the food provision problems of the district.

To incorporate women in the different work in the rear.

To «purge» the Central Trade Union Organizations and see that those expelled are not readmitted into other antifascist organizations.

To suppress all superfluous work and incorporate the workers in other tasks related with the war.

To inform the Prime Minister of the agreements adopted by the Federation of Metal Workers, so that he may know the problems and the solutions proposed by workers with the object of inten-

sifying the production of war material.

Don Angel Ossorio y Gallardo left recently for France on his way to Argentina to take up his post as Ambassador of the Spanish Republic.

Since July 19, 1936 the following applications have been made for entry in the list of cooperatives of the Ministry of Labor:

Agricultural cooperatives...	2,338
Consumers cooperatives...	680
Workers and mixed cooperatives.....	230
Total.....	3,248

Some 3,000 of these applications have been accepted.

The Mayor of the city of Madrid has published an edict for the regulation of traffic for vehicles and pedestrians, in accordance with the special difficulties occasioned by the constant artillery fire from enemy batteries against the city.

Citizens are recommended to use side-walks protected from the direct fire of the enemy.

The parking of vehicles outside cafés, theatres, etc., is forbidden under heavy penalties.

On May 14, a Government order was published calling for the issuing of special stamps for submarine mail, which has to be resorted to in cases where it is impossible to maintain postal communications by any other method.

The stamps have already been printed in six different colors, but the date of their issues has not yet been fixed.

Although submarines have been used for carrying mail at various times, and especially during the Great War, this is in all probability the first occasion on which special stamps have been issued for this method of transit.

The Madrid newspaper, *Politica*,
(Continued on page 12)

SYMPTOMS OF CIVILIZATION



— What's that noise?
— That'll be the eight thirty bomb, sir, going off a bit before time.

SPANISH NEWS BRIEFS

(Continued from page 11)

published recently the following item:

The «guerrilleros» of Extremadura are showing extraordinary activity as is proved by the fact that in one month they have blown up eight enemy trains loaded with men and material.

A Government decree dated May 25, provides for the construction of 16 bomb-proof shelters in Barcelona harbor and eight refuges in Valencia harbor. The total cost of these works will exceed six million pesetas.

The Collectivized Metal Industry is at present manufacturing 40 threshing machines for the Ministry of Agriculture. They will be ready in time for the grain crop this autumn.

The threshing machines are being almost entirely, built from raw materials produced in Spain. Some 50 specialized workers are employed in manufacturing them.

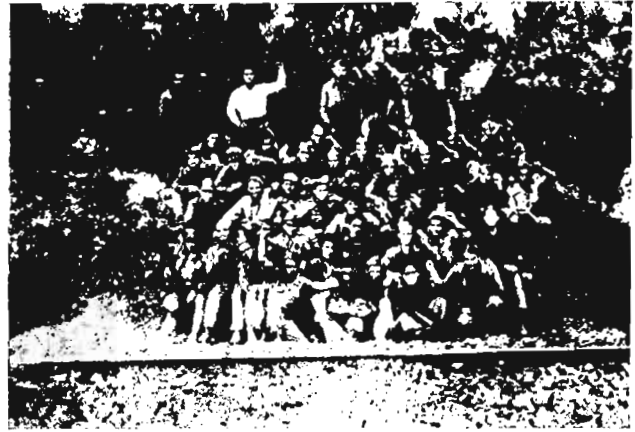
A recent Government decree granted an extraordinary credit of 600,000 pesetas for the installation of a «multiplex» telegraphy system on a single wire between Barcelona, Valencia and Madrid. The wire will be able to carry ten messages simultaneously, but later, if it is found necessary, it can be modified so as to carry as many as thirty.

The «multiplex» telegraphy system, which was invented during the present war by two Spanish telegraph engineers, Lanuza and Carrasco, was first tried out on December 23rd, 1937. The experiments were repeated on January 7th, 1938, with great success. It enables a far greater number of messages to be transmitted simultaneously than any system hitherto used in other countries.

In the present circumstances, with Catalonia cut off from the rest of Loyalist territory, the new system is destined to prove extremely useful in maintaining communications between Madrid, Valencia and Barcelona.

By Government Decree a National Committee for Aid to Spain has been recently formed. The functions of this Committee shall be:

1. To arouse and encourage aid for Spain in foreign countries and to maintain close contact with corresponding organizations in each country.
2. To organize propaganda in favor of the Spanish people in agreement with these competent bodies.
3. To act as an organ of liaison between the Department of the Spanish State and the International organizations helping Spain.
4. To see the wishes of the donors are in every way fulfilled.
5. To propose whatever measures it deems necessary to improve the movement for aiding Spain.



Catalan, Cuban, American and Spanish youth of the Brigade
Catalán, Cubano, Americano y juventud española de la Brigada

La Juventud en España,

Por JOSÉ BELLO

Toda la juventud en España y Cataluña, para garantía de nuestro triunfo, está una parte ya en el frente y la otra se apresta a hacerlo.

La retaguardia también tiene en su seno a jóvenes que respondiendo al momento y a las necesidades trabajan diez y doce horas, de una manera incansable para asegurar de que de los talleres salgan todos los artículos que necesita el Ejército y el armamento con el que ha de combatir.

También puede constar nuestra causa, que toda la juventud del orbe está diariamente atenta a nuestra causa y correspondiendo en la medida que le es posible, al triunfo definitivo de nuestras armas.

Contra el energúmeno Franco, fiel intérprete de los crímenes y de la opresión que tienen en sus países Hitler y Mussolini, como manera de contener el movimiento democrático de sus pueblos, contra esos monstruos bárbaros lucha toda la juventud española y a su lado la de todo el mundo.

Vemos aquí, unidos en un solo pensamiento, ligados por su conciencia revolucionaria, guiados sólo por un ideal, a la juventud española, jóvenes catalanes, asturianos, castellanos, andaluces, aragoneses, valencianos, etc., que comprendiendo la necesidad del momento, *ganar la guerra* ponen con sus hermanos internacionales un bloque granítico que como barrera infranqueable sirve para contener las hordas fascistas y hacerles fracasar en sus planes.

Aquí, jóvenes de todas las tendencias: socialistas, republicanos, comunistas y anarquistas y sin filiación, sólo recuerdan su filiación cuando la causa lo exige, ya que representan el sentir de sus partidos y como estos cooperan magníficamente todos a través del Frente Popular en el logro de la libertad de España, se les ve unidos en este solo afán.

También hay en nuestra Brigada jóvenes catalanes, pero uno de ellos me decía como si hablase por todos.

«Yo soy cristiano porque recibí esta educación de mis padres y porque veo en ellos, en los preceptos cristianos, nobleza y justa ne-

cesidad de todos los hombres y hoy me hallo luchando en el Ejército Popular porque si Cristo predicó la bondad, la virtud y la misericordia, quien asesina cobardemente a niños, mujeres y ancianos, quien trata de imponer el régimen de opresión y de crímenes, como el que existía en España antes, y quien vende a nuestra patria y nuestros hogares, por el hecho de continuar siendo traidor, estos tienen que ser enemigos de todo cristiano». Podrá tener la cooperación de algunos «cristianos» el enemigo de España, pero no son estos verdaderos cristianos sino mercaderes que comercian con las creencias y el sentimiento de una gran parte del pueblo español.

Creo que hay en estas palabras todo el contenido sano de quien amando la libertad y concibiéndola desde estos puntos de vista, con una visión clara de quienes son sus enemigos.

Porque ya hoy en España todos y en todos los lugares mirando desde el mismo punto de vista sabemos en un mismo grito quien es el de la liberación y el triunfo, gritos al unísono, con voz que trasciende a todos los ámbitos del mundo:

¡Abajo el fascismo!
¡Viva la democracia!



Taking it easy outside the "Chabola"
Descansando fuera de la "Chabola"

AL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSEJO DE LA GUERRA Generalísimo CHANG KAI CHEK

A los Jefes del Ejército.
A todos los Comandantes de los guerrilleros.
A todos los combatientes de todos los frentes.

Nuestro heroico Ejército Nacional Revolucionario y las formaciones de guerrilleros anti-japoneses han puesto en jaque las tropas japonesas en todas las líneas de fuego.

Nuestra guerra de liberación, después de una defensa encarnizada, entra en una fase de ataques victoriosos contra el enemigo invasor.

A medida que se unen las fuerzas de nuestro pueblo, aumentan y crecen sus fuerzas combativas. La victoria definitiva será nuestra.

Las noticias de vuestras magníficas victorias llegan hasta las trincheras de la España Republicana, reafirmando la seguridad y la esperanza en el triunfo final del pueblo español, tan grande y fiero.

Los pueblos español y chino, están a la vanguardia del combate antifascista, luchan juntos por sus libertades e Independencias, por la paz y la libertad de todos los pueblos.

Nosotros, los voluntarios chinos, en los rangos del Ejército Popular Español, luchamos por la defensa de la libertad y de la democracia del pueblo español, que al mismo tiempo, es la lucha por la causa de nuestra patria.

Después de haber cumplido nuestros deberes en España, volveremos con vosotros para continuar la lucha en los campos de batalla de nuestro país.

Nuestros saludos fraternales de lucha a todos vosotros.
Viva el Frente Uni-Nacional Anti-Japonés.
Viva el Ejército Nacional Revolucionario chino.
Viva la República china.

Grupo de combatientes chinos de las
Brigadas Internacionales en España.

BEHIND THEIR LINES

By Harry Dobson

Suddenly finding ourselves separated from our Battalion we immediately chose the best positions for defense to prevent the fascists taking us prisoners. Luckily we held them off until nightfall, when under cover of darkness we headed in the North East direction. One of our men some distance ahead acted as advance scout.

The darkness had its disadvantages as well as advantages, this we soon learnt. Marching along a rugged cart track we were promptly challenged by sentries on the outskirts of town. We realized almost too late that the town was occupied by the fascists. Our replies to the questioning of the sentries being unsatisfactory they ordered us to proceed. As we marched toward the center of the town the advance scout asked a guard what brigade he was attached to and received the reply "107 Brigade, Saragossa". This reply was extremely useful to us shortly afterwards. In whispers it was decided to slip through the guards and reform at a point a short distance away. One by one we slipped off the road stepping over the reclining and sleeping bodies of several hundred fascists. It was day light when we reformed and much too close to the town to feel comfortable. Several times we were challenged by enemy patrols and machine gun outposts. We replied "Brigada ciento y siete, Zaragoza, patrulla". One of the comrades when challenged merely replied, "Italiano". This he was able to do because we were confronted with Moorish, Italian and German troops.

From that moment we avoided all roads and took to the hills. Loaded with ammunition, arms and packs, it was hard going climbing up steep peaks, sliding down deep gullies, and walking through thick bushes and trees.

Several days later we encountered a fascist battalion. We were hiding in a clump of bushes when the battalion in single file walked directly toward us to turn within

a few yards along a narrow track. We had already prepared ourselves in case we were observed. Rifles were cocked and bombs conveniently at our side. Fascists in this battalion broke into every house in the valley and proudly showed each other articles they had stolen. Those on mules carried sheep and boasted of the swell dinner they would have at the expense of the "reds". Others were impatient to move to the next village because in the words of one "to have a good time with the red skirts".

We would not be here now were it not for the peasants. They gave us wine, nuts and sometimes eggs on our journey. We hid for a whole day at the home of one of the peasants who misled enemy patrols close on our heels. They gave us valuable information, whereabouts of the fascists, easiest direction to follow. There were tears in their eyes as we insisted they accept a little present, a pen, a little tobacco, a photograph set.

Every day we were sniped at. We finally reached our objective, the enemy first line. There we discovered their password was "Morro" and the answer "allah arribas". We held a short "Council of War", decided where to break through and the tactics to adopt. After a short but fierce struggle at close quarters we broke through. A few hours later we reached the Ebro and in crossing we used logs to assist those who couldn't swim. Now we are back and looking forward eagerly to retracing our steps and meet the fascists on more equal terms. A comrade was talking to his mates around the camp fire and was relating his experiences in trying to reach Loyalist territory after being cut off with a few others of his battalion by the flanking movement of the enemy. It was a story simply told but brought out the determination to endure privation if necessary, and a desire for preparedness to fight to a finish to regain our comrades.



SHARPSHOOTER. — TIRADOR CERTERO

PROF. DE ONIS OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SENDS LETTER OF DEVOTION TO REPUBLIC

Professor Federico de Onis of Columbia University (New York) — one of the most important centers of learning in the U. S. A. — has addressed a letter to his friends, the poet Antonio Machado and Professor Tomas Navarro Tomas, both of whom have from the beginning staunchly defended the cause of the Spanish people. In his letter Prof. Onis declares his support of the people. We reproduce below the entire letter.

Prof. Onis is one of the most prominent scholars in Hispanic research and study. He was professor in Oviedo University and his collaboration in the Center of Historic Research in Madrid has been noteworthy. Twenty years ago he accepted an invitation to go to America and was appointed to a chair at Columbia University. Besides his magnificent work at Columbia, he has also distinguished himself in the Hispanic Institute of Columbia University. From his professor's chair, in the lecture hall, and in literature, Onis has contributed in a wonderful manner to the knowledge of our cultural values throughout America.

His letter is as follows:

Columbia University,
New York, 15th April 1938.

To Antonio Machado and Tomas Navarro Tomas.

Dear Friends:

I have followed from afar, from the place where destiny placed me some twenty years ago, your efforts and those of other Spanish Intellectuals, who in this mighty and dramatic hour have simply done their duty. I have followed them with admiration and deep sympathy. And I say so now, to let you know that there is at least one more who is on your side in these trying times.

My duty has kept me here in this North American university attending to my lectures and developing cultural relations between the United States, Spanish America, and the Sephardic Jews through the Hispanic Institute of Columbia University. The very essence of this work — a work of understanding and unity of the most liberal sort — has kept me apart from the actual war, which is to my eyes, since I am accustomed to historic outlook, the same war that Spain has undergone for the last four hundred years. When commemorating the death of Erasmus, I delivered a lecture on the Spain of 1535, and every word I then said could be applied to the Spain of 1936. The wave of reaction that was unloosed then drowned the buds of a progressive and liberal modern Spain.

When speaking on another occasion to the Sephardic Jews of New York, I was able to explain that their exile from Spain was due to narrow-minded Germanic ideas in Europe, which were absolutely alien to the broad and tolerant mind of Spain of the Middle Ages.

In speaking every day of the year on Cervantes from my seat in the University, of our theatre, of our mystics, of the Picaresque Novel, of Quevedo, Jovellanos, Larra, Galdos and even of America, I always find myself face to face with the latent tragedy of our people, which from the XVII Century has manifested itself in a series of civil wars, in which under different names and outward appearances, identical things and similar names repeat themselves, with such similarity that one is even led to believe that the present actors are not moved by their own will but by that of their ancestors.

I have lived the war in my place and in my way, always surrounded by its painful pangs, awaiting an impossible peace. I am not a politician now, nor shall ever be one. The principal reason I left Spain long ago, was my dislike for the official Spain, so that away from it and free, I could feel my solidarity with the positive values of our people. This I have done so far and this I will continue to do in the future. But as my separation from the Spanish struggle might be wrongly interpreted, I want to make public, through you both, once and for all, my personal position, which is the following:

Although I am not a politician, I am, I have been and always will be a man who places liberty, democracy, and social justice above everything else. I have never made a declaration of sympathy to any political party, either during the Monarchy or the Republic. But in these critical moments for a Government which under abnormal and trying conditions succeeded in organizing a heroic people who are dying for the ideals that are also my ideals, I consider it my duty to declare my complete and absolute solidarity with that people and their Government.

After this, dear friends, if the Government wins, I shall return to my total independence and separation from all political activity; yet should the Government be beaten, I shall follow your fortune and suffer my part for sharing their ideals. No one is able to tell what the future of the world and of our ideals will be; yet happen what may, I shall always be a firm believer in liberty, justice, and democracy, and will never sympathize with the systems known as "totalitarian" which are trying to destroy these three principles.

Yours sincerely,

FEDERICO DE ONIS.

JOHN GOLLAN VISITS BRIGADE

By DAVID GUEST

When a short time ago the British Battalion was visited by Johnny Gollan, the leader of the British Young Communists, it was not only the members of the Y. C. L. who were glad to welcome him. Gollan is welcomed in far wider circles than the Y. C. L., as the outstanding leader of British youth, and there is no doubt that both the Youth Charter of the British Youth Peace Assembly and the similar youth programme of the T. U. C. owe their primary inspiration to him.

After speaking to the whole Battalion on the most recent developments in the political situation in Britain, Johnny agreed to hold a special meeting with the younger comrades in the Battalion. But it must be confessed that quite a number of comrades gate-crashed this meeting on bogus age-limit pretexts, claiming that for this purpose at any rate they belonged to the youth.

The purpose of the meeting was to answer those questions which we were asking so eagerly about the development of the youth movement in Britain. First and foremost the question of unity. What developments were taking place in the work between the Young Communist League and the Labour League of Youth? What success was attending the efforts of the newly formed Youth Peace Alliance to cause the younger generation of Britain on the issue of Spain and Democracy?

To all these questions and many more Johnny replied with the utmost patience, and in a manner that brought the situation vividly home to us. He was particularly encouraging about the development of the "Youth Peace Alliance" and youth "popular front" embracing the League of Nations Youth, Young Communists, Young Labour, Young Liberals.

The meeting ended only as darkness drew on and we felt that a speaker who had been on the go all day ought to rest sometime. But a bit later when the camp fires were

¡Disparad contra los aviones! ¡Por grupos!



lit and comrades were singing in groups round the camp, Johnny came round to take messages home and chat with individual comrades.

Before leaving he discussed with a few of us, by special request, the problems in the work of young Activists in the Army. He was able to give us a fine instance of his ability to sum up an altogether new type of concrete situation, and give us really helpful advice in conditions so different from those of the movement at home.

Company One Mac-Paps

It was a year ago this month the first company was formed. For a while it was the only company in the Muckenzie-Papineau Battalion. The Washington Battalion had left for the front, and a handful of Americans and Canadians were left in Tarazona. Most of these had arrived in Spain a couple of weeks previously, experiencing their first taste of fascism in armed aggression.

Joe Dallet was introduced to us as the commissar of the new Battalion. A few days later Bob Merriman was introduced to us as the commander. Joe Gibbons who has now become famous in the whole Battalion was the first commissar of Company One, and Bob Thompson who later became Battalion commander, was our Company commander.

The Company spent the whole of last summer training hard at manoeuvres, thus developing a well trained military unit. It was here that Dave Doran, who afterwards became commissar of the Brigade, received his first training.

When Bob Merriman left the Battalion, Bob Wheeler a Jarama veteran, became our Company com-

Reminiscences of a Quartermaster

The job of Section Quartermaster which I held until recently was more wished on me than wished for. It would have been much more pleasant if some comrades would know when they have had enough instead of coming back for 'fifths' and 'sixths'. But being a quartermaster at a base camp differs from being a quartermaster at the front.

On the River Ebro, our section was on a quiet part of the front and the Intendencia apparently thought we could be left to our own devices. Surprisingly enough, our section fed better than for a long time under these conditions. In fact we had fried chips regularly on the menu. With bread and vino, we have had many a feast in the empty village church where we quartered.

One night, digging potatoes in the front line, we heard the sound of approaching men. We challenged the oncomers. No, it was not the fascists, only some British boys on the same errand as us. The first question they asked: 'What about lending us your spade?'

For some time in that village we went all Spanish, drinking out of the vino bags, etc.

I think our teniente, Arthur Nicoll, enjoyed himself most. He spent his time cultivating potatoes, cauliflowers, and beans. These were regularly inspected by the night patrol and received plenty of watering. The day we got orders to move, Arthur and Victor Robillard, our stretcher-bearer, dug up all the spuds and took them along.

So you see that while the quartermaster is the most maligned man in the section, he has his moments. He is the first up in the morning and the last to bed.

GEORGE BAKER
(RHONDDA)

mander, Thompson taking over the Battalion.

On September 9th, 1937, when the Battalion left for the front the Primera Company was ready to do its stuff.

By a Member of the 1st
Company

Barcelona, 9 de junio de 1938

TELEGRAMA

Al Comandante y al Comisario 129
Brigada Internacional.

En nombre Jefes, Comisarios, soldados, Brigadas Internacionales Zona catalana, enviamos caluroso saludo y felicitación a heróicos combatientes 129 Brigada y Batería Internacional que en el frente Levante codo a codo hermanos españoles resten encarnizadamente, contratan y rechazan tropas de invasión extranjera.

Bandera de la solidaridad Internacional tenida por vosotros gracias vuestra unidad, vuestra disciplina, vuestro valor en los sectores de España Central conocerá todavía y siempre nuevos heroísmos y gloria imperecedera.

MARTI - GALLO

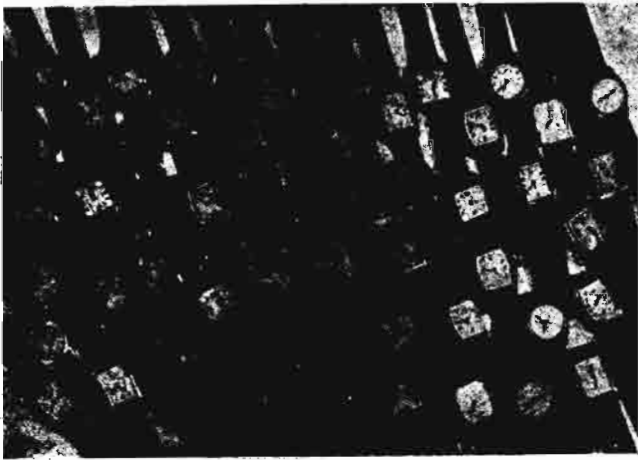
XXI CUERPO DE EJÉRCITO

ORDEN GENERAL DEL DÍA
DE HOY (1 de junio de 1938).

Art. 3.º El Jefe del Sector en Orden General del día 1 de junio me dice:

« Con motivo de haber sido abatido un avión italiano, a las 16 horas de ayer que cayó incendiado a la altura del kilómetro 37 de la carretera de Linares, demostrando por ello el entusiasmo por la Causa, serenidad y capacidad técnica de las fuerzas de su mando, se inserta en la Orden de hoy la felicitación justa y sincera del Jefe del Cuerpo de Ejército a la que uno la mía, muy sincera, dirigida al Grupo Cerlikón n.º 3 y a los antiavionistas de la 129 Brigada, incitándoles a seguir por este camino como ejemplo de eficacia ante todos los defensores de la España Leal. Dése cuenta en oficio personal a los afectados personalmente por esta felicitación. »

« Como Jefe de la 129 Brigada, me complace en felicitar a todas las tropas de mi mando y especialmente al Grupo de Antiavionistas del Primer Batallón Dimitroff, así como al Grupo de Anti-tanques de la Brigada por su excelente actuación y por el entusiasmo con que han combatido contra la aviación extranjera, incitándoles a seguir dando ejemplo de serenidad para con ello demostrar cómo es posible hacer caer a tierra los aparatos fasciosos. »



The Commissariat of the International Brigades has recently received the above gift of one hundred magnificent wrist watches from American Aid to Republican Spain organizations. The Commissar-Inspector of the I. B. has decided to distribute the wrist watches, after proposals have been received by the Commissars, among the best combatants of our International Brigades

El Comisariado de las Brigadas Internacionales acaba de recibir un regalo de cien magníficos relojes de pulsera de las organizaciones americanas de Ayuda a España Republicana. Es una nueva manifestación de la simpatía y del agradecimiento que en todos los países del mundo levanta la lucha heroica que llevamos aquí en España en defensa de la libertad y de la democracia. El Comisario-Inspector ha decidido distribuir estos relojes, sobre proposiciones de los Comisarios, entre los mejores combatientes de nuestras Brigadas Internacionales que estaran orgullosos de poder llevar tan preciosa y alta distinción

SPANISH FOLK SONGS OF THE WAR

Frontiers that divide the people,
Soon we'll tear apart.
The masses speak a thousand tongues —
But have one heart.

For the workers no boasting Fatherlands,
Only freedom and peace,
So that through peace and freedom
All may find release.

History follows a single road,
Led by the masses forsooth —
Although our-learned historians
Lie about the truth.

The men sing as they work.
The women sing at their tasks.
All the World is singing
When the people are free at last.

But silent now the guitar
And the *jota aragonesa*.
First comes the International,
Then the Marseillaise.

Red with the people's blood
From the bombs of the enemy's raids,
Our flags are blooming like flowers
On freedom's barricades.

Girl of the People's Army,
Do not be jealous of me
If to my heart I take
Both you and Liberty.

Translated by
LANGSTON HUGHES.

FOOLS AND FIRE-ARMS

Everybody is familiar with the idiot who fools around with fire-arms on the pretext that he is interested in the mechanism, and every sensible soldier, if he can't shut the fellow up, gets a long way away. In the idiot's hands rifles and revolvers are dangerous, hand grenades a positive menace. Such a man was once seen trying to discover the inner secrets of an unfamiliar type of grenade he had picked up. When mass pressure was exerted to make him leave the thing alone, he flew into a huff and tossed the bomb on to the ground a few yards away. Fortunately for everybody the bomb stayed quiet.

It is less idiocy than lack of imagination that makes men try out their guns for this purpose or that without first making sure that there can be no uncomfortable consequences. During a recent action, a soldier began testing his gun against a cliff face. It seemed quite safe to him, and so far as his choice of target was concerned, it was. What he failed to foresee was that the enemy, who could hear his shots, might be provoked into giving return fire.

Sometimes in the sort of wide open spaces where the Brigade takes up a rest or reserve position men test their guns, secure in the belief that the space will swallow their bullets as the whale swallowed Jonah. Sometimes, a little further off in the same wide landscape, soldiers or peasants will be startled by the whistle of bullets flying over their heads. Every bullet, wherever it is fired, carries death until it stops. Before guns are tested, it should first be estab-

lished that it is safe to test them, not forgetting the possibilities of ricochet. In the event of a tasty grouse being sighted on the mountain side, greed should be sternly curbed. We need our bullets for the fascists.

MILES

"ORDERS ARE ORDERS"

Every soldier, from the ranker upwards, carries his share of responsibility, which is enough for one. In the old days you would hear men arguing the merits of an order before deciding to carry it out. Now that the men know they are part of an efficient fighting force, and arrive at Brigade with a military rather than an

individualist outlook, no one need tire himself out by assuming a responsibility that has been delegated to others. Thus the Army is saved much unnecessary effort and the effect of our victories is more far-reaching than the heroic but hairbreadth successes of the past.

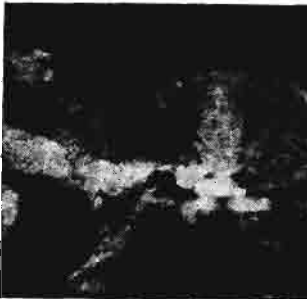


BRITISH BATTALION on the move. Sam Wilde, battalion commander, second from right.
BATALLÓN INGLÉS EN MARCHA. El Comandante del Batallón Sam Wilde (segundo de la derecha)



OLD TIMERS. Ray Steele, killed at Brunete, behind the gun.

VETERANOS. Ray Steele, muerto en Brunete, detrás de la ametralladora.



FEEDIN' the gun.
COMIDA para los fascistas.



FORMER New York University students.

GRUPO DE estudiantes de la Universidad de Nueva York.



FASCIST STAFF HQ. Note Falangist emblem on upper wall in center.

ESTADO MAYOR de los fascistas. Nótese el emblema falangista en la pared del centro, arriba.



MAC-PAP FLOATS on May Day. Launched from battalion position on the Ebro to sail down the river in full view of the fascists, who poured fire at the stogans.

FLOTAS DE LOS Mac-Paps en el día Primero de Mayo. Echado al agua en la posición del Batallón, en el Ebro, al hacerse a la vela del río, en plena vista de los fascistas, quienes les tirotearon.



TRENCH SCENE on the Ebro.
ESCENA DE LA trinchera a lo largo del Ebro.



GROUP OF Spanish comrades of the Lincoln-Washington Battalion.
GRUPO DE camaradas españoles del Batallón Lincoln-Washington.



ANTI-TANK gun ready for action.
CAÑÓN ANTI-TANQUE preparado para la acción.



TRANSMISSION men of the Brigade.
TRANSMISIONISTAS de la Brigada.



GROUP OF Greek comrades in the 15th Brigade.

GRUPO DE camaradas griegos de la 15. Brigada.

"TO RESIST WAS AND IS THE PATH TO VICTORY"

Affirms Negrin in Madrid Radio Broadcast

(The following is the speech delivered by Dr. Juan Negrin, Prime Minister of the Spanish Republic, on Saturday evening, June 18 from Madrid).

From this magnificent Madrid which, since it has become the symbol of the struggle for the independence of the fatherland and against foreign invasion has twice in little more than a century won the right to be called the capital of the peoples of Spain, a city which ever since its entry in history has known how to couple deep feeling and firmness in a magnificent contrast, from this Madrid which more than 400 years ago took part in the uprising of the commoners and has always distinguished itself in its rejection of impertinence by its grace, its disdain and its pride, from this incomparable city which is light-hearted and solid at the same time, the centre where all the different characteristics of the peoples and regions of our land are mingled. I address the Spanish nation to explain to the combatants at the front and to the workers in the rear our confidence in triumph (they will not be depressed by reverses which are foreseen and expected in a war which, unfortunately, will still be long and full of setbacks) and to expound to all Spaniards the aims which justify our perseverance in the cruel struggle until victory, for which we shall have to wait long but which is, nevertheless, certain.

Victory depends on our determination.—Whenever as head of the Government I have spoken to my fellow citizens from this post of supreme responsibility, I have always been careful to do so without ambiguity or rhetoric. I have repeatedly insisted, from the very first moment, that the war will be difficult and long and that it will be a hard test for the strongest minds. My conviction remains the same. Victory depends on our determination and its attainment merits all sacrifice, for on victory — heed my words — depends not only the independence but perhaps even the continuance of Spain as a nation.

We have more war material than ever.—Four months ago, owing to the criminal policy of non-intervention which favoured our enemies and appeared to have no other end than to strangle Spain, we were faced with a terrible crisis in war material. At that time, and as a result of the fall of Teruel, I assured you that, relying on the efforts of our workers, it would be possible to overcome the lack of equality in the supply of material, which was placing us in such a difficult situation. Today this superiority of the enemy still persists. His successes are in great part due to this. It is not in vain that he has behind him a powerful industry, the industry of Germany and Italy, which provides him with all he needs. But we are no longer in that defenceless stage which threatened to force us to submit to strangulation. Much remains for us to do, much is being done, much will be done, for a great war industry cannot be improvised in a few months. Nor can artillery, tanks and planes be manufactured in weeks. Nor is it

possible to overcome, all at once, the hindrances and difficulties by which the enemy, perhaps with the complacent collaboration of some and lack of courage in others, is impeding our equipment, taking advantage of an ominous agreement which in practice represents the most hypocritical aggression in contemporary history against a free country and a legitimate Government. But it is certain that our army has never had such powerful means for fighting as at present, means which are increasing every day.

Against the down-hearted and cowardly.—Those who shamefully cover up their discouragement by disguising it with reflection and criticism (it is easy to unmask them by their exaggerated pessimism) will whisper to you that it is useless, to attempt to rival in speed, in view of the powerful resources of Germany and Italy, the efforts which these countries can make. This is pure sophism. The weapons of an army have their limit. There is no use exceeding this limit. To guarantee victory it is not even necessary to reach such a limit. It is enough for us to have an indispensable minimum to assure the necessary efficiency of the fighting forces.

Our soldiers have shown hundreds of times that it is not necessary to have equality in material means in order to repulse the enemy victoriously and even to take the initiative successfully.

We are not blinded by the progress made nor are we afraid of the path that lies ahead. It is sufficient for us to know that the prospects of attaining the necessary weapons for our army and converting it into a decisive instrument of victory are favourable. How long will this take? It will not be long. The reduction of the time needed depends on our common efforts. To save time is to save blood.

The bitter days of March.—In the anxious days at the end of March — some of the most bitter of my life — when the front and the rear appeared to collapse, when defeatism filtered through every crack polluting the minds of all and threatened to paralyse the pulse of war, I remained confident in the heroic virtues of the Spanish people. In an appeal to them, I told them the exact truth and asked them — demanded of them — sacrifice and resistance.

Resistance was and today still is preparation for victory. Every day of resistance was and continues to be a new trump card in our hand. The whole nation has listened to our appeal. Catalonia, hard pressed by the invaders, knew how to resist and to rival in heroism the other peoples of Spain. In the same way, Levante knows how to resist today. There I have observed in action and in spirit an energetic determination to crush the invader and not to allow its soil to be trodden on with impunity.

It was necessary to resist, to reconstruct a front which had crumpled, to reform morale which was on the point of collapsing. The order of the Government was listened to: the front was reformed, morale was re-established and reached a level

hitherto unknown. The cutting of communications between Catalonia and the rest of loyal Spain, which for many was the prelude to the end, was received by our people and our army with such calmness and such firmness that it has astonished all and has proved a disconcerting surprise to the enemy.

Lack of faith is the worst evil.—As that time lack of confidence in our people, lack of faith in triumph, and lack of enthusiasm for the sanctity of our cause placed us on the verge of catastrophe.

One cannot inflame a people and bring them voluntarily and complacently to accept the greatest sacrifices if one has no confidence in them. Our Spanish people have proved a thousand times, when one has known how to penetrate the depth of their soul, that they deserve confidence.

Neither in life nor in war can one conquer without faith. Faith creates and conquers. It is not possible to attain success in a struggle if before going into battle we think in terms of defeat and retreat is prepared. Most of the time the conqueror finds his way paved by the vanquished.

The crime of surrender.—If we do not feel enthusiasm for our cause, it will be easy to sidestep towards settlement and compromise. But do not let us deceive ourselves. This would never mean an adjustment or possibility of living together, because the enemy, the real enemy, does not wish to do so. The Spanish rebels would not be allowed to make a pact.

No. That is the path to capitulation. And what for? To recover in emigration the calm they had lost? What of the thousands and millions of Spaniards who have placed in our hands not only their tranquility and hopes but also their goods and their lives? Can we forget the methods of persecution and extermination employed by nazism and fascism? Can we forget what happened and is still happening in Asturias, in Santander, and in the Basque country?

But what about Spain?—Those who have even temporarily lived through the anxieties of the front, those who with their own eyes have seen the misery of the civilian population, those who have felt shame and anguish on seeing the hardships suffered by evacuated women, the aged, and children, can they, we ask, in a moment of weakness consider so much misery and so great affliction sterile and can they allow the sadistic spirit of vengeance which animates our enemies to prey upon a paralysed and defenseless mass? But what about Spain? Are we or are we not fighting for the independence of Spain. Ah! if it were not so, not a second more of war, not a drop more of blood. We would not permit anguish and pain to increase. But it is a question of the existence of Spain as a free country, and in view of this our sacrifice cannot be priced or measured.

If the future of our land is at stake, we will succumb or conquer while there is a handful of earth we can call our own, while there is a heart beating within a Spanish breast. And we will conquer.

We have inherited our history.—A great German, Goethe, who was not very Aryan and who today doubtless would not be a nazi, said: "Whatever you inherit from your parents, you should conquer in order to deserve it." Well then, I do not deny or renounce the history of my country. We have inherited a magnificent history. It has faults and defects like others, it is true, but a magnificent grandeur of its own. This obligates us to do much. History is a dynamic chain of which we are but a link. We have inherited our history not in order to contemplate it and preserve it, but to deserve it.

Bequeathing it, we shall excite posterity. Each generation has its mission to do, and if ours is harsh we cannot avoid fulfilling it. We must, therefore, analyse rigorously and without self-deception the exact condition of our fight. And I speak to those who think in Spanish. Yes, also to those who are on the other side of our trenches.

Our Spain coveted.—Spain is being worn out and stained with blood, because the unchecked ambition of countries for whom the definition of the rights of the people counts for nothing directs their greedy aims towards her and sees in our country a favourable victim for their avarice.

Immense potential wealth, a privileged and unique geographic situation in Europe were sufficient bait to set the devilish manoeuvre in motion which may, if we do not attempt to break it up, put a shameful end to the history of our country. We Spaniards, it is true, gave them fertile soil for their Machiavelian plans. The internal struggle of a people whose national spirit was deadened by generations of petty politics brought about the poisoning of the social life of the citizens and stimulated well-meaning and colourful extremism, provoking in a demagogic manner uncontrollable violence and thus weakening the resources of the State and arousing mutual suspicions against the institutions which were vital to the nation and its citizens.

Fascist scheming.—Thus an atmosphere was created in which the uprising might appear a defence and the revolt a preventive measure; and both, defence and revolt, might aspire to appear redeeming revolution. It was hoped to establish a military, political and economic hegemony by the triumph of a faction. It was a well meditated plan, but the Spanish people defeated it. The attempt was frustrated. What was to be an insurrection became a civil war and very soon a war of invasion. Do not be deceived. It is the truth. Have you not seen the plan of partition, of incitement to violence, framed by Italians and Germans in a neighbouring country? Have you learned nothing from Czecho-Slovakia, Rumania and Brazil? Have you not heard that they are attempting similar seditious movements in other countries of Europe and America? Do you not see that the immediate aim might not appear the same, but that the final aim of the totalitarian powers is always to create a disturbance in the place where they wish to satisfy their lust? Do you believe that the Germans and Italians who are destroying our cities and our people, devastating our riches and assassinating without pity our women and children—the women and children of Spain—do you think that they feel any interest in our war, that they show sympathy for our people? Yes, yes, they take advantage of the situation, but they despise you.

They lack the heart to understand us. They have too little generosity to judge us. This and no other is the reality. Will you consent that those who today consider themselves lords and masters and who imagine our country mortgaged in their favour, divide us into zones of influence and that they exploit the work of our fathers and the labour of our sons? Do you not see that they will not object, if need be, to satisfy others with part of the booty, cutting the country into pieces, converting it into a defeated land or mandated territory? These are the real terms of the problem.

We are the victims of the uncontrollable ambition of some and of the mediocrity and cowardice of others.

We are fighting to save Spain from foreign domination and from possible seizure by nations abroad, and we will win. The certainty of victory inspires Spain with the invincible desire to attain it.

The plebiscite of the 43rd Division.—Our people yielded ground against heavy odds, awaiting the moment for revenge. But they do not give up or declare themselves defeated. This happened in Madrid, this happened in Catalonia; this is now happening in Levante and Extremadura. To achieve revenge and with it victory for the good of all. Look at those magnificent fighters of the 43rd Division who, after months of incalculable fighting made more difficult by absolute lack of artillery shells and almost without a rifle cartridge (again thanks to the sacred policy of Non-intervention) retreated in perfect order to join the front once again after passing through France. And they repeated the plebiscite of the 31st Division, which proves to the world—the world always asks for proofs—where the spirit of the Spanish people lies.

Our daily lesson gives us the certainty of triumph. A day on which a lesson is learned is not a day lost. A defeat which is accompanied by a lesson learned is not irreparable. Thus we are profiting by lessons we have learned and hardening ourselves to withstand reverses.

The need for a high morale.—We have learned that without high morale the war cannot be waged or won. Today the morale of our troops and our rear (our rear which works and which feels our cause, and not that other rear which at the beginning clothed itself with optimism in order to dissimulate its ill-will; and now, since its personal freedom is guaranteed, feels itself at liberty to grumble), the morale of the rear which represents the immense majority and the morale of the troops is excellent, despite their suffering and privations. We know that it is necessary to intensify the production of arms, and our factories and workshops are working as never before.

For a titanic effort.—We have learned through bitter experience what the lack of trained officers means (one of the principal reasons for our misfortunes) and are forming, training and organising bodies of trained officers with amazing speed. Schools for non-commissioned officers, officers, commissars are being improved and increased. We have reserves. We shall increase them and give them efficient preparation. We are fortifying and we shall increase our efforts in this respect to titanic proportions. We have learned what are the things that hinder the waging of war. We are dedicating ourselves to simplifying this problem and attaining the necessary unity. Spain is not an isolated rock in the world. Every day of resistance is a battle won in the international field in favour of our cause, for the heroism of our soldiers has shattered the plans made at our expense.

The harvest is not yet ripe, for not all nations are as awakened as ours. But when we gather it, it will be a reward for our perseverance and persistence. We have given the world a high example of tenacity and courage. There were some wretched creatures who believed the Spanish people to be frivolous. They said this as an easy way out, and because they themselves lacked the virtues possessed by the Spanish nation.

They do not know that in seven centuries of reconquest we freed Europe—at that time decadent—from a fierce orientals invasion. From this invasion we extracted its best qualities. Nor do they realise that, despite certain lies, Spain brought its civilisation to America, showing less desire for exploitation and gain than the other countries engaged in similar enterprises, and impressed upon it the seal of a race and a language while she was fighting hard battles in Europe. This cannot be the work of an inconsistent people. Nor are they

aware that the counter-reformation, really a Spanish achievement, was more than a religious struggle, and that at the beginning it was not a reactionary struggle, although it later degenerated into one. It was a conflict between the Spanish conception of the universal and the average European conception of the individual. This could never be done by a people lacking tenacity.

They do not know that even in the period of greatest decadence in Spain—the XIX century—we were capable of giving the world two ideas which have survived in modern times: the ideas of nationality and liberalism; and that that could never be done by an insensible people or a people lacking aspirations.

They have misjudged our stubbornness. At present, gloating over a bleeding Spain which they hope to see looted by pirates or ignorant speculators, they are wrong again not foreseeing that from this blood-christening Spain will resurge stronger and more powerful than ever before.

Yes, we have reason to be confident in victory! It is our duty to be confident in it!

Why, then, do we fight?

Reasons for our struggle.—When a Government demands of a people that, in spite of all hardships and sacrifices, they resist to the last, it must be under the urge of principles intimately related with the people themselves.

It cannot ask for resistance in the name of a specific ideology, a group or a party. It must do this in the name of a common denominator of aspirations, or a sum of obligations contracted by its history, which represents our debt to posterity and constitutes as a whole the desires and undertakings, the national exponent of a people.

Since the commencement of this tragic Odyssey the various governments which have followed one another have reiterated the affirmation that we are fighting for respect of the will of the nation.

The highest representative authority of the State, His Excellency, the President of the Republic, has stated this on more than one occasion. My predecessor said the same before Parliament in October 1936 when he declared that we were fighting for a peace that will give Spain the economic, political and social institutions that the majority of the country would elect freely in due course. I have repeated this on every occasion that I have had the opportunity to speak in the name of the Government both in Spain and abroad.

Nevertheless, it was necessary to state the aims of our war concretely. This brings up the Government's programme of war aims, or peace aims we might say.

We are fighting to guarantee the absolute independence of Spain.—We are fighting to guarantee the absolute independence of Spain without hindrance or limits—other than those imposed by a common right to establish bonds and relationships between peoples—to guarantee the law of our vigorous Spanish ancestry whose root dates back to the Dominican friar Bartolomé de las Casas; the eminent doctor Pío Pedro Suarez; and to the forerunner of international law, Francisco de Vitoria.

Independence means liberation from invaders, means rejecting guardians, means giving the worker the right to enjoy the fruits of his own lands instead of being the victim of foreign plunder, means a political life and economy directed, regulated and exploited by and for the Spaniards.

We are fighting for the integrity of Spain. We do not admit partition or mortgages; we cannot tolerate concessions of her territory, her coast line, or her cities. We cannot tolerate this on the Pe-

ninsula, in the islands belonging to Spain, or even in her colonies and protectorate. We are fighting so that Spain, without ever interfering in the domestic life of any other country, shall be able to consider as her own the interests of nations whose ancestry and language are common to her own.

We are fighting for a people's Republic of a democratic nature; for the monarchy had lost all connection with national sentiment and was responsible, in a decadent Spain, for its own overthrow. A new dynasty with a new king would mean the churning of Spain to the zone of influence of one of any other foreign country and she would never enjoy peace.

We are fighting for a strong Government, for a firm executive, depending on the will of the nation expressed in the ballot, for a Government which would place the State above all political parties. And those political parties should consider it their principal mission to place themselves at the service of the masses of the nation.

We are fighting so that the will of Spain, expressed by a plebiscite as soon as the war is over, may be the leading factor in the political and social life of the Republic.

Greatest regional personality within the greatest Spanish unity.—We are fighting so that, without weakening the national unity, there will be respect for the peoples which form Spain. Unity on the outside; diversity within. This has been the characteristic of Spain in the times of her greatest splendour; and all regional liberty which does not go against the interests of Spain or other regions, should be respected and upheld. When a country is on the ascent in the curve of its destinies, variety unites and enriches. It means dispersion and weakening only when the country is decadent. Nobody wants the disintegration of Spain. If there is anybody that desires this, let him consider himself our enemy. We are not willing to leave behind, in a bend of the road of the fratricidal fight, five centuries of our history. We favour then, the greatest regional personality within the greatest unity.

Respect for conscience and creed.—We are fighting because we want the State to guarantee the enjoyment of full rights to every citizen, complete respect for conscience and creed. We cannot tolerate the intervention of the Church as an institution in the life of the State, nor can we admit interference by its leaders in the disputes of citizens. But at the same time we are fighting to guarantee freedom of worship. We owe this to a principle which we profess. We owe this to the countless number of Spaniards who practise positive religions. We owe this to thousands and thousands of Catholics who are fighting at our side. But even if there were only one—or even if there were none at all—the State cannot permit persecution for ideas. It would, moreover, be a profound error. Any persecution makes martyrs, and martyrs give new life to beliefs. At the bottom of all religious feeling is to be found one of the most noble features of the spirit of man, and were it not for a profound religious feeling, it would be difficult to find courage and to bear without flinching the hard trials which our country is undergoing.

We are fighting so that the fruits of the land may be for the man who works it. We are fighting to suppress the shameful exploitation of the individual by a wealthy class which in turn converts itself into the ruler of the State and loses sight of and almost always goes against—all collective interest. Let he who wishes to be an owner become one by his own efforts and let him submit the enjoyment of his possessions to the supreme interest of the nation.

A powerful army.—We know what the war means. Nobody can deny us the experience. We are pacifists. Yet in order to be pacifists we need, besides, a powerful army, navy and air force which will win for us international respect. We know how much an army costs to maintain, but we have also learned what it costs not to have one.

We are fighting for the establishment of international relations founded on a regime of law, but founded also on a basis of equality. In order to attain this no sacrifice should be spared.

Peace for all Spaniards.—As long as the war lasts we have to be hard and inexorable with the enemy, both open and hidden. But we are anxious for peace in order to incorporate in the urgent task of reconstructing and aggrandising Spain all those compatriots who sincerely wish to fulfil the duties which we must perform. Are there people who think that after this bloody struggle the Spaniards are simply to be classified as conquerors and conquered? Are there people who think that our land is so rich in values that in its reconstruction we can dispense with the services of workers, whatever their trade or profession, merely on account of the label of the side they fought for? Are there people who think that this fratricidal struggle is to be continued after peace is attained?

Cautious Onlookers.—No. Heed my words, though they may not please a certain number of people. It will be easier to reach and understanding with the adversary of yesterday, the enemy of today, and perhaps the collaborator of tomorrow than with the cautious onlooker who wishes to be the friend of all, because he considers himself so vastly superior that he is prevented from taking part in the fight; and who waits on the other side of the barrier for the moment to assault and to harness himself to the cart of the victor and to polish his brass and buttons, so as to be able later, when there is no risk, to hinder him in his work by means of cold criticism bereft of all soul and affection.

We must remind those egoists who hold themselves aloof, who have always considered themselves "dessus de la mêlée", that if they had taken part at the right time and as good citizens and tried to reduce the difficulties and lessen the harshness of the struggle, they would have perhaps avoided many evils.

There is much rivalry among them. They must be used. But nothing more. For what Spain needs are men, not eunuchs.

Cursed be the ruler who does not realise that when the fight is over his first duty is to bring about conciliation and harmony so as to render possible the fellowship of citizens! Poor Spain if after such cruelty and humiliation, she is unable to find the leader who base the interests of their compatriots on great ideals of historic roots and who deviate them from the paths of hatred and revenge which a civil war engenders... it would be the end of Spain.

The maximum aspiration of statesmen should be that, before many years have passed, the names of the victims of the struggle should figure side by side on the roll of honour of each town and village, as martyrs for a cause which should give us a new and great fatherland. But that will be later. Meanwhile, and in order to attain this, we are at war. And the fighters at the front must wage war with courage and bravery. The conquest that lies ahead of us merits all sacrifices.

We are fighting—heed my words—so that Spain may belong to the Spaniards, and this we shall achieve.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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GROUP in the Commissars' School. Comrade José Varela and members of the Division Milicia de Cultura are in the back row, center

GRUPO en la escuela de Comisarios. El camarada José Varela y miembros de las Milicias de Cultura de la división, están en la fila de atrás y en el centro

THE DIVISIONAL SCHOOL FOR COMMISSARS

Up at the divisional school for commissars, they are an enthusiastic crowd. Here is a typical day's programme.

- 7 a.m. Diana.
- 7:30 Physical Culture.
- 8-9 Breakfast.
- 9-11 Class—general culture
- 11-1 Political instruction.
- 1-3 p.m. Midday meal, siesta
- 3-7 Military instruction.
- 7-8 Study.
- 8-9 Supper.
- 9-11 Discussion.
- 11 Taps.

Not a bad day's work? Moreover, they don't rest when they get a chance. There is siesta between one o'clock and three o'clock. Theoretically. Yet a visitor would not suspect it. Immediately lunch is over, out come the books, pens, paper and they are studying again. These student commissars realise the importance of their work and they certainly mean to equip themselves for it. At one table one of them is reading the 13 points, at another a student is writing a detailed comment on one of the points. Here is someone working on an essay dealing with the work of a commissar. He regards it as much more than an academic composition. When he is asked: "What are the duties of a commissar?", he talks in the convincing manner of an already experienced commissar. He has the answers at his fingertips.

All around the room work is going on at the same pace. At his table, they are building a wall newspaper, over at another table a group are discussing the details

of next Sunday's meeting and fiesta to which the town is invited.

No, there is very little siesta about that siesta hour. About the school itself, Comrade José Varela, adjutant commissar of the XV Brigade, will tell you anything you want to know.

"There are 30 students, 10 from each of the Brigades in the division", he says. "In the morning for 2 hours they study general cultural subjects and geography, general history, geometry, etc. They are taught by members of the 'Milicia de Cultura' of the division. Afterwards they have political education, dealing with such subjects as the Frente Popular, the 13 points, the history of the fascist invasion, and the growth of the commissariat. In the afternoon, they are given military instruction. For instance, this afternoon there is a lesson on tactics. At night they study the day's work and write it up, and after supper there are discussions, or they make up the 'periódicos murales'."

Round the room there are the results of their work; wall-boards under the headings of "Capacitación", "Per Catalunya a la Victoria", "Ataque" and "Avanzar". There is a competition on for the best paper, between the various groups. Outside there hangs the school wall-board, the collective effort of everyone. One article shows how well they are learning their work. It demonstrates clearly that they have already established friendly relations with the townspeople. Here's an extract: "The Ladies say: That they couldn't have a better opinion of us... that the in-

UN NUEVO COMANDANTE, JOSÉ ANTONIO VALLEDOR

Un nuevo Comandante tiene nuestra querida Brigada. Un nuevo Camarada que viene a nuestra Brigada a dar toda su experiencia militar y llevarla por el camino del triunfo y de la gloria que nuestra Brigada ha trazado en los combates más rudos que se conocen en la Historia de nuestra guerra.

El Camarada Comandante Valledor lleva en la lucha revolucionaria desde el año 1924. En la revolución de Asturias participó activamente ocupando cargos de gran responsabilidad. Después de la Revolución, es condenado a muerte, luego indultado, al estallar esta guerra sale desde el primer día como soldado, es ascendido hasta capitán, luego comandante de Batallón y más tarde Jefe de Brigada. Tuvo una excelente actuación en el Ejército del Norte, es puesto en la Orden del día del Ejército del Norte, tuvo una excelente desempeño en la defensa de Trubia y en todos los ataques sobre Oviedo. Cuando cayó Santander se trasladó a la parte oriental de Asturias. Allí combatió 46 días incansablemente. Cuando la pérdida del Norte no evacía y se interna en las montañas tratando de salir hasta Francia, y en las proximidades de ésta, es herido por dos balas de la Guardia Civil y Requetés y se le traslada a la cárcel Provincial de Pamplona. Ocultando nombre y naturaleza, logró huir después de estar preso y a trabajos forzados durante cinco meses, haciendo un pase falso y en colaboración de un sargento que pertenecía al partido comunista. Eludiendo la guardia fronteriza logran pasar a Francia.

Pide al Cónsul español que lo traslade inmediatamente a Barcelona y ya en ésta pide ser incorporado al Ejército y se le destina al Ejército del Ebro y luego aquí

como Comandante Jefe de nuestra Brigada.

Bienvenido seáis, Camarada Comandante Valledor. Encontraréis en nosotros, Comisarios, Oficiales y soldados, aquellos heroicos hijos de Asturias que unidos en una sola voluntad, españoles e internacionales, revivimos y reviviremos las jornadas gloriosas de aquel Asturias heroico.

CAMARADA

VLADIMIR COPIC

Se nos ha ido nuestro gran Comandante, Teniente Coronel Copic.

Se nos va para cumplir con el deber de antifascista en otros frentes, a continuar la lucha, siempre joven, aunque no en edad, pero sí en pensamientos.

Nosotros no podemos más que recordarlo con un profundo cariño. Aquel viejo JEFE de nuestra Gloriosa Brigada, que en los campos del Jarama, Brunete, Quin-



ternational comrades are very likeable and they recognise the sacrifice they made when they left their homes to fight here."

Many of the students are veterans who have been through many campaigns and they have learned, by experience the need for a good commissariat. That is why, one of them said when asked about the "roll of honour" as yet empty.

"That's for after the examinations. We all want to get our names on that."

And you come away from the school, feeling that it is going to be difficult to leave any of them off it.

M. J. MILLER.

to, Mediana, Belchite, Fuentes de Ebro, Teruel, Segura de Baños y cien otros combates supo con su energía, voluntad y estrategia guiarnos por el camino del triunfo, jalonando con su actuación las acciones más brillantes de nuestra guerra.

Venido desde países lejanos, llamado por una honradez, un ideal sano, con una única meta: luchar contra el fascismo bárbaro y asesino, vengar las víctimas inocentes del régimen oprobioso de Italia y Alemania e impedir que pase lo mismo con nuestra patria España. Todo lo dió, así como dejó su patria, su familia, y todos sus seres queridos, dió en España toda su

(pasa a la pág. 8)



ON THE RANGE
EN EL CAMPO DE TIRO

One of the principal reasons for the success of the fascist offensive in Aragon was the enemy's superiority in material. This was due to the powerful support given Franco by Hitler and Mussolini, and to the non-intervention policy



"DO NOT shoot unless and until you have a definite object."
"HAY QUE disparar siempre y solamente sobre un objeto apuntado y no al aire."

which operates only against Republican Spain. Our Government of National Union has already taken the necessary steps to increase war production and, as soon as possible, to put us in possession of fresh and larger supplies of artillery, tanks and planes.

But the enemy's advantage in material and armament is not the whole explanation. Frequently, positions were abandoned solely because of the psychological effect created by rebel bombardments or because of panic caused by alarms that "our flanks have been broken", that "the fascists have come around behind us", etc. This demonstrates that our infantry, in spite of the thousands and thousands of true examples of valor and heroism, has not always played its role as the only arm which, in the final analysis, can decide the result of the battle.

It is not the courage of individual men which has weakened in critical moments. The shortcomings have been those of organization and of a united morale. These have been the weaknesses at all times that prevented our units from confronting the wave of enemy infantry, stopping it and destroying it in open battle.

The effect of enemy bombardments has, above all, been psychological rather than actual. In general, they have managed to demoralize the first line but not to destroy it. A check-up on the losses of each unit shows that the casualties, both dead and wounded, caused by aviation and artillery have been relatively very small in number. And this is so in spite of the fact that our fortifications everywhere were completely undeveloped and inadequate. Nevertheless, the feeling of not having defenses strong enough to withstand heavy bombardments frequently influenced our soldiers to leave their positions even before the enemy infantry attacked.

It is a well established principle that proper defenses can substantially reduce the effect of artillery fire, and even more fully, can neutralize aerial bombardment and strafing. During the World War there were battles in which such enormous quantities of artillery were used that sometimes there was one cannon every eight meters along the front. Moreover, these guns battered away not merely for two or three hours, but for days and days in succession, against the opposite trenches. But excellent shelters enabled the troops in these trenches to resist the terrific fire

and to be in position promptly when the enemy infantry tried to advance. This was made possible only by such a well-planned and well-placed system of fortifications that, besides giving the defending troops definite protection from shelling, it also saved them from being overawed by it.

These experiences and examples should compel us to pay maximum attention to all fortification work. Thus we will find ourselves prepared to defy pressure from both artillery and aviation, no matter how heavy. A good system of fortifications is thus a powerful method also of building up confidence and fighting spirit.

For the morale of the men is the essence of the matter. Once the material tasks of fortifying are performed, the attitude and feeling of the soldier must be considered. Indeed it can be said that the strength of the infantry lies in its morale. Every infantryman has the duty of understanding that he is the one who determines the outcome of the battle, that the enemy cannot overcome the infantryman who possesses and proves that he possesses greater valor and audacity.

Every combatant must understand that the infantry may not leave its position unless the enemy pressure is of real crushing force. But the infantryman must also realize that when he has a well-dug trench and automatic arms in good condition, the odds are tremendously in his favor over the enemy. For the latter is advancing through unknown territory and is protected only by whatever features of the terrain he is able or lucky enough to find. Infantrymen with firm courage can always beat back a cavalry charge. Likewise the infantry's perforating bullets make it quite possible to repulse attacks by enemy tanks and whippets with their poor armor-plate.

At the same time, if organization is good, the infantry in action can receive close support from special anti-aircraft and anti-tank



BRIGADE SCOUTS
EXPLORADORES DE LA BRIGADA

SOME OF OUR WEAKNESSES ALGUNAS DE NUESTRAS DEBILIDADES

por LUIGI GALLO Comisario-Inspe

squads. Well-trained units of this type, strategically placed in every section and line of trench, are of the greatest aid to the infantry.

Certainly the enemy's superiority in armament is a great factor; but it is far from being the decisive element if our infantry, by its fortifications, its training and its fighting spirit, shows that it is conscious of its high responsibilities. Our infantry soldiers must learn not only how to resist and, if necessary, to die at their posts. They must also learn how to take maximum care of the weapons entrusted to them.

In every battle the objective sought is the destruction of the enemy. Our soldiers fire too much and too often. We must make a sharp improvement in the discipline and accuracy of our fire. We must teach our soldiers to shoot well, but not to shoot unless and until they have a definite object. To fire into the air is wasteful. To fire without need is only to give ourselves away to the enemy and to reveal our lines and emplacements. The fire has to be directed. Selected riflemen should be continuously on sniping duty to hit any enemy head that appears. Good sniping can cause plenty of casualties even in periods of calm at the front. In war the purpose to follow is always the same: to destroy the enemy.

And to destroy the enemy it is essential that we greatly increase our discipline; not merely our formal discipline, but the inner discipline of each soldier, each officer, each unit. Without discipline, co-ordination is impossible. Without discipline, there can be thousands of individual heroes and yet no successful results. Without discipline, any wild rumor or excited word can create panic and disorder among thousands of men if, as they sometimes are, worn out by fatigue and nervous tension.

Troops who are well-organized, well-disciplined, well-controlled by their officers — such troops can never be overwhelmed by alarms that "our flanks have been broken", or that "the fascists have come around behind us". If it is true that the enemy is behind us, it is also true in such a case that we are behind them. Victory will then go to those troops who show the greater valor and audacity. If we are energetic and courageous enough, any enemy column which has infiltrated our lines can be quite easily cut off and surrounded.

It is a morale of resistance no matter what the price and attack that must be inculcated into our men. The operations in Aragon have shown this to be our defect. The responsibility for it falls upon all of our commanders and commissars.

Through studying past experiences we can and must learn how to eliminate our shortcomings. To this study, to this work, to this task our political and military cadres must devote themselves in these present moments.

AND HOW TO OVERCOME THEM

LITARES Y COMO AYUDAR A SUPERARLAS

ctor de las Brigadas Internacionales

Una de las principales causas del éxito de la ofensiva fascista en Aragón, ha sido la superioridad en material del enemigo, obtenido gracias a la poderosa ayuda prestada a Franco por Hitler y Mussolini y a la política de no intervención que sirve sólo contra la España Republicana.

Nuestro Gobierno de Unión Nacional ha tomado ya todas las medidas necesarias para ampliar lo más posible la producción de guerra y ponernos, en el más breve plazo posible en posesión de nuevos y más numerosos cañones, tanques, aviones, etc.

Pero la superioridad en material enemigo no lo explica todo.

A menudo las posiciones han sido abandonadas solamente por el efecto psicológico obtenido por el bombardeo enemigo o por el pánico creado por noticias como «que estábamos desbordados por los costados», «que se tenían los fascistas a las espaldas», «que los fascistas atacan con tanquetas», etc., etc.

Esto demuestra que nuestra infantería, a pesar de los millares y millares de ejemplos sublimes de valor y de heroísmo, no siempre ha desempeñado su papel del arina que sólo decide, en último análisis, del resultado de la batalla.

No es el valor de cada hombre el que ha flaqueado en el momento decisivo, son las debilidades de nuestra organización. Debilidades de moral del conjunto de nuestras unidades que no siempre han permitido afrontar la ola de infantería enemiga, de detenerla o de destruirla en una batalla abierta.

El efecto del bombardeo enemigo ha sido sobre todo más psicológico que material, en general no ha conseguido más que desmoralizar la primera línea pero no destruirla. Tomemos los números de las bajas de cada unidad y se verá que relativamente son muy pocos los muertos y heridos causados por la aviación y la artillería, a pesar de que por todas partes nuestras fortificaciones fuesen completamente rudimentarias e insuficientes. Pero el sentimiento de no tener fortificaciones eficaces contra los bombardeos ha concurrido a menudo a hacer dejar a nuestros soldados posiciones sin esperar el ataque de la infantería.

Una experiencia general es que se puede resistir al fuego de la artillería y aun mejor al bombardeo y ametrallamiento aéreo, hasta durante la guerra mundial, donde en algunas batallas se han empleado masas enormes de artillería, algunas veces, un cañón cada 8 metros de frente, que han batido las posiciones, no sólo durante dos o tres horas, sino durante días y días, la infantería ha podido resistir en refugios bien preparados a este fuego de infierno y estar prontos a salir y detener el avance de la infantería enemiga.

Solamente un sistema de fortificación bien estudiado y bien realizado permite protegerse materialmente contra el bombardeo, o no dejarse impresionar por él.

Estas experiencias son las que deben impulsarnos a prestar la

mayor atención a todo el trabajo de fortificación para desafiar no importa qué artillería, no importa qué aviación.

Un buen sistema de fortificación es generalmente un medio poderoso para el sostenimiento de la moral combativa, también durante el infierno de las explosiones y la crepitación de las ametralladoras.

Pero una vez tomadas estas medidas materiales, es la moral de los hombres la que hay que cuidar. La fuerza de la infantería es la moral.

Es necesario que cada soldado, de infantería sepa que es él el que debe decidir la batalla y que contra el soldado de infantería enemigo vencerá si da prueba de más valor y de más audacia.

Es necesario que cada combatiente sepa que la infantería no puede dejar las posiciones sino bajo la presión aplastante de la infantería enemiga y además el soldado de infantería que resiste en su trinchera, ya preparado, que tiene sus armas automáticas preparadas al fuego, se encuentra en condiciones de combate enormemente superiores al enemigo que avanza sobre un terreno desconocido y no puede utilizar más que las particularidades de este terreno.

Un soldado de infantería con el corazón firme bate siempre al caballero que le ataca. También la infantería con sus balas anti-tanques puede muy bien rechazar los ataques de las tanquetas fascistas que además están muy mal protegidas por ser blindage.

Por otra parte la organización en cada unidad, en cada línea de trinchera, grupos de antiavionistas y antitanquistas, bien entrenados pueden aportar una ayuda preciosa a la infantería en la lucha.

Cierto que la superioridad en material del enemigo cuenta; pero está lejos de poder constituir un elemento decisivo si nuestra infantería, por sus fortificaciones, su entrenamiento y su moral, sabe mostrarse a la altura de su cometido.

Nuestros soldados de infantería deben aprender, no solamente a resistir y dejarse matar en el sitio,



SPOTTING the enemy
OBSERVANDO al enemigo

si es necesario, sino sacar el máximo de rendimiento de las armas que les son confiadas.

En cada batalla, el objetivo que se busca, es el de la destrucción del enemigo. Nuestros soldados disparan aun demasiado a menudo por disparar. Hay que elevar enormemente la disciplina y la eficacia de nuestro fuego. Hay que enseñar a los soldados a tirar bien, a disparar siempre y solamente sobre un objetivo apuntado y no al aire. Disparar en el aire no sirve de nada. Disparar sin necesidad es únicamente descubrirse al enemigo y revelarle el emplazamiento de nuestras armas y de nuestras líneas. El fuego debe ser dirigido. Los tiradores escogidos deben estar siempre al acecho para abatir cada cabeza enemiga que aparezca. Con una buena organización de tiradores escogidos, hasta en los momentos de calma, se puede causar bastantes bajas al enemigo. En la guerra, el final que se persigue es siempre el mismo: destruir al enemigo.

Y para realizar todo esto hay que aumentar aun mucho la disciplina, no solamente la disciplina formal, sino la disciplina de cada soldado, de cada oficial, de cada unidad. Sin disciplina no hay posibilidad de coordinación. Sin disciplina se pueden tener millares de

héroes pero sin ningún éxito. Sin disciplina todos los «bulos», todas las noticias pueden crear el pánico, a desbandada entre millares del



BOMBARDMENT
BOMBARDEO

hombres que se encuentren frente a la muerte y algunas veces agotados por el cansancio y la tensión nerviosa.

Una tropa bien organizada, bien disciplinada, bien en las manos de sus jefes no se dejará nunca impresionar por noticias como la de «estamos desbordados por los costados», «que se tienen los fascistas a las espaldas». Si las unidades enemigas están a nuestra espalda nosotros también estamos a las suyas. En estos casos vencerá la tropa que haya demostrado más audacia y más valor.

Las tropas que se infiltran en nuestras filas pueden ser muy fácilmente cortadas y cercadas a su vez, por poco que se haga prueba de audacia y de energía.

Es una moral de resistencia a todo precio y de ataque la que hay que inculcar a nuestros hombres. Es esta moral la que ha faltado en las operaciones de Aragón. La responsabilidad de esto incumbe a todos nosotros, Jefes y Comisarios.

Es del estudio de las experiencias pasadas del que debemos sacar las indicaciones para eliminar todas nuestras debilidades, es a este estudio, a este trabajo a lo que débense movilizar en los momentos actuales a todos nuestros cuadros políticos y militares.



MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTION, British Battalion
INSTRUCCIÓN DE AMETRALLADORA, batallón inglés

The Republic's Thirteen Points

The Work of Our Sanidad

By BOB COONEY, Commissar 57 Battalion - PRIZE WINNER

A contest of articles on the 13 point Declaration of the Government, held in May, brought forth a number of excellent contributions.

The judges awarded no first prize because the best articles exceeded the 400 word limit set forth in the rules of the contest.

For this reason only 2nd and 3rd prizes were awarded. In view of the good qualities of those contributions which remained in the running it was decided to announce two second and two third prizes.

The winners of the 2nd prizes were V. González, 57th Battalion and Bob Cooney, also of the 57th. The third prizes were won by Miles Tomalin of the Brigade office and by Manuel Sanz, 57th Battalion.

The judges were: J. Peris, 60th; J. Maestre, 58th; J. Ortega, 24th; M. Strang, 57th.

In this issue we publish the 2nd prize articles. In the next issue, the 3rd prize articles will appear.

The statement of the Thirteen Points is one that could only be issued by a Government strong sure of itself and confident of victory.

It is a dignified statement which must profoundly move all decent humane people throughout the world. It will succeed in convincing many wavering elements both in Spain and abroad that the cause of the Republic is in capable hands and is bound to succeed.

The entire statement of policy follows logically from the first point which asserts the Government's determination to assure the absolute independence and complete integrity of Spain.

Can any reasonable person put forward an argument against this point? Undoubtedly not, and since no argument can be found against point one, it follows that point two (liberation of Spain from the foreign military forces which have invaded it) is also unchallengeable.

All liberal minded people — all who believe in human justice and freedom — must support these points and must recognise their own obligations, their duty to the

Republic assailed by foreign invaders.

Having stated clearly the character of the war and proclaimed its determination to free Spain from foreign interference, the Government goes on to state the character of the New Spain which will be built when victory is won.

• A Peoples Republic • with a State which is the symbol of firm executive power, dependent at all times on the direction and wishes of the Spanish people.

This is the voice of a Government which is perfectly sure of itself, which knows it enjoys the confidence of the people and is certain of success.

What a contrast to the terror, the farcical, stage-managed plebiscites of the fascist States! What a contrast to the shameful flouting of the expressed wishes of the people practised by the Chamberlain Government in Britain!

Guarantees are given to the various regions — the protection and development of the personality and characteristics of the various peoples forming Spain. Such guarantees can only be given by a Government which knows that its policy is in perfect accord with the interests and aspiration of the various peoples.

The guarantee of freedom of conscience — the assurance of free exercise of religious belief and practice — can only be given by a Government which knows that its policy conforms to the interests of all the people whatever their religious or political faith.

The guarantee of property legitimately acquired and the encouragement of the development of small property will assure the Government of the support of the peasantry and middle class. This plus its determination to prevent accumulation of wealth from leading to the exploitation of citizens, puts the case for the Popular Front in a nutshell and is the basis for uniting the entire people against the fascist foreign invaders.

The agrarian reforms promised and already instituted show the sincerity of the Government in this



JOHNNY GOLLAN y Bob Cooney

regard and serve to win over formerly doubtful elements among the peasantry.

The characterisation of the army as • the sure instrument for the defence of the Republic •, free from all hegemony of tendency or party, will not only enthuse the soldiers who make up this army it will bring the rearguard into proud cooperation with the army.

Point Twelve reads, • The Spanish State re-affirms the constitutional doctrine of renouncing war as an instrument of national policy. Spain, faithful to pacts and treaties, will support the policy symbolised in the League of Nations which will continue being the key-note of its policy •.

Such a statement emanating from a country brutally invaded and racked with the agony of war for nearly two years must put all professed friends of the League to shame. That Spain in the midst of its agony can make such a moving statement is the most striking testimony to the justice of its cause and the nobleness of its aims.

The last point promises a broad amnesty • to all those Spaniards who wish to co-operate in the immense task of reconstruction and elevation of Spain •. The unequalled generosity of this statement reveals beyond doubt that here is a Government animated by an intense and human patriotic love of Spain. Only a Government certain of success can make such a statement, can show such generosity to its enemies.

The Thirteen Points are unchallengeable assertions of human and national rights.

They put the issue of Spain on such a clear footing as will win to the cause of the Republic, not only the great masses of Spain, but also all those millions abroad who have been deceived by talk of • warring ideologies • and who now see the war in Spain as the struggle of a great and valiant people to win the right to decide their own destiny.

The Government and the People are one. This is the guarantee that the cause of the Republic will triumph.

The work of the Service Sanitaire, in one form or another, has come to be regarded as a normal activity in our army for so long that it rarely occurs to us, to praise and sum up the nature and value of its work. From the work of the sanitarios, in the companies, through the battalions, brigades and division sanidades, can be traced some of the best examples of sacrifice and organisation in our great army. In all sections the spirit of fraternity prevails and today Spain has a medical service worthy of high place in our estimation.

Our poets, major and minor, have yet to wield their pens and give us rhyme and song of our Sanidad and its great work.

Lenin, in a letter to Gorky, once wrote, • A sick soldier is always a bad soldier •. No words could be more true, since a comrade who is ill, is unable to perform his function as a member of a unit. Here is where the Sanidad plays its important role — aiding the recovery of the sick and wounded, and in the prevention of sickness by safeguarding the sanitary conditions of the soldiers. Upon their efficiency depends the speedy return of the wounded so that the latter can once more take their places in their companies and help keep up the strength and fighting power of the army.

Considering all the conditions of war and the adverse circumstances, the work is carried on with remarkable precision and rapidity and in the field of operative surgery, cures little short of miracles, have been performed.

As the representative of a vast organisation, the section and company sanitarios, maintain the personal contact of the soldiers with the Sanidad; caring for them in cases of slight sickness and tending every day to their minor ailments and injuries. The work providing refuse pits and latrines, maintaining and keeping them in order for the benefit of all is their work also.

Shortage of medical supplies can hamper considerably the work of the sanitarios. The sanitarios are at all times among the last to leave however dangerous the circumstances, the work of evacuating all the wounded possible, has to be carried on. Although they do not carry arms, they are among our best soldiers for so many depend on them and much can be lost if they fail.

Patience and consideration, beyond the degree possessed by most people, is one of the essential qualifications of the members of the Sanidad. Doctors have sacrificed much in order to take up their place in the Spanish Army.

To what and does our Sanidad work? With the slogan • Hygiene and Discipline are necessary for victory! •, it works and goes forward for the triumph over fascism.

ANTON MILES

15 Brigade Sanidad.



BRITISH LADS in No. 2 Company of the British Battalion
CAMARADAS BRITÁNICOS de la 2.ª Compañía del batallón Inglés

LA DECLARACIÓN DE LOS 13 PUNTOS, DOCUMENTO DE INTERÉS NACIONAL Y DE INTERÉS MUNDIAL •

Por VALENTÍN C. GONZÁLEZ

Intérprete 57 Batallón Inglés (ganador del 2.º premio)

Una competición entre los camaradas de la brigada sobre los 13 puntos del gobierno produjo numerosas contribuciones.

Solamente el segundo y tercer premios fueron conferidos por el motivo que los mejores artículos han excedido de más de 400 palabras como la regla de la competencia anunciaba.

Los ganadores del 2.º premio fueron: Bob Coney, del 57 bon. y V. González, también del 57; los del tercer premio fueron: Miles Tomlin, de la oficina del Estado Mayor, y Manuel Sanz, del 57 bon.

Los jueces fueron: J. Peris, del 60 bon., J. Mestre, del 58 bon., J. Ortega, del 24 bon., y M. Strang, del 57 bon.

La declaración de los 13 puntos del Presidente Negrín, en unánime acuerdo con los ministros de su Gobierno que es el legítimo y el único de todos los españoles, tiene un doble alcance:

Nacional, el uno;

Mundial, el otro.

Tiene un alcance nacional, tomando la palabra nacional en su verdadero significado y acepción, porque va dirigido e interesa por igual a todos los españoles, sin excepción ni exclusión alguna, a los de la zona leal, y así mismo también a los de la zona subyugada por Franco con la ayuda de extranjeros, invasores de nuestro suelo.

La declaración tiene también un alcance mundial, y a todos los pueblos del mundo ha sido dirigida, ya que nuestra lucha, por lo que en ella se ventila — libertad contra opresión; cultura contra obscurantismo y atraso; derecho de las clases laboriosas a una vida de decencia contra la imposición de una vida de miseria, en pocas palabras, la lucha de la democracia contra el fascismo, tiene sin género alguno de duda un interés y un alcance mundiales. Es por eso que nuestro Gobierno, en los ya famosos 13 puntos, ha fijado ante el mundo entero, con claridad y

precisión, las aspiraciones y el carácter de nuestra lucha, no sólo en su alcance nacional sino también en su alcance mundial.

Después de una lectura detenida de nuestra declaración, los españoles que querrán merecer tal nombre no tendrán más remedio que ver en esos 13 puntos la condensación de los deseos del pueblo español de vivir como nación independiente, y libre de toda clase de tutelas o explotaciones extranjeras; la voluntad de España de ser respetada y tenida en cuenta como nación europea y potencia mediterránea; la voluntad del pueblo español de que se respete la personalidad regional y la individual, todo dentro del marco de la unidad nacional; la voluntad de que se respeten los derechos de los ciudadanos españoles, sus propiedades legítimas, sus ideas y sus creencias; la voluntad de que el trabajador español tenga garantizados sus derechos por medio de una legislación adecuada a las peculiaridades de España y de su economía; la voluntad de España de que su pueblo sea constantemente mejorado cultural, física y moralmente, lo que unido al consiguiente mejoramiento económico traerá como consecuencia que el pueblo español camine con paso seguro hacia el disfrute de la felicidad humana a que todos aspiramos.

Nuestro Gobierno ha sabido interpretar acertadamente en su declaración de los 13 puntos los deseos y aspiraciones del pueblo español, o sea, la voluntad nacional, pero, ¿de qué modo convertiremos en realidades esos deseos y aspiraciones y de qué medios nos valdremos para defenderlas contra las asechanzas interiores o exteriores? El medio, el instrumento adecuado para llevarnos a ese fin lo tenemos ya, y está a nuestra alcance el perfeccionar ese instrumento cada vez más. Ese instrumento es nuestro glorioso Ejército Popular. Por tanto, ¡hagamos por todos los me-

dios posibles que nuestro Ejército Popular sea cada día más fuerte, cada día más poderoso, que esté cada vez más unido! ¡Libremos a nuestro Ejército Popular de partidismos o tentativas de hegemonías, que al dividirlo lo debilitan! ¡Hagamos de él, como dice nuestro Gobierno en su Punto número II el instrumento seguro para la defensa de las libertades e independencia del pueblo español.

Ahora, en cuanto a la posible acogida que pueda haber tenido la declaración de los 13 puntos de nuestro Gobierno en el extranjero, no cabe otra posible acogida más que la comprensión exacta, el convencimiento absoluto, si alguna duda aún quedaba entre las masas del mundo, del verdadero carácter de nuestra lucha, o sea, la verdad clara y escueta de que nuestra lucha es la lucha de las fuerzas de la legalidad Constitucional, de la libertad, del Progreso, de la independencia, en fin, las fuerzas de una verdadera democracia contra las fuerzas reaccionarias españolas que carentes de todo sentido patrio y humano no han dudado en aliarse a los invasores extranjeros, y que junto con ellos representan las fuerzas de la opresión tanto nacional, como regional como individual, verdaderos representantes asimismo del retroceso histórico en todos los órdenes: cultural, social y moral.

Y por último después de meditar sobre la amplia generosidad que se desborda de ese último punto de la declaración, después de escuchar esa llamada al corazón de todos los españoles con que cierra su declaración nuestro Gobierno, ¿habrá algún español que se precie de serlo que no se sienta comprendido en esa llamada hacia el perdón, en esa petición de su cooperación para la reconstrucción y engrandecimiento de la nueva España? ¿Habrá alguna persona aún con solamente vestigios de sentimientos humanos en el mundo entero que deje de comprender después de la lectura de ese generoso llamamiento, que aunque nuestro Gobierno no tuviera otros méritos para ser nuestro Gobierno, — y ciertamente tiene otros muchos méritos — bastaría esa generosidad, bastaría ese llamamiento para convencer a todo el mundo de que nuestro Gobierno tiene todos los derechos y además las virtudes y méritos para ser el Gobierno de todos los españoles?

Pensando, pues, en las consecuencias del conocimiento de los 13 puntos tanto en España como en el mundo entero, nos sentimos ahora más que nunca seguros de que el sol de una verdadera democracia brillará pronto en todo el suelo español, para bien de los españoles y para guía y ejemplo de todos los pueblos del mundo ansiosos de libertad.

¡ Viva la República Española!
¡ Viva el glorioso Ejército Popular!

¡ Vivan los heroicos camaradas internacionales!

DECALOGO DEL SOLDADO ANTIFASCISTA

1. Unidad, Resistir, Disciplina, como suprema necesidad de victoria. Por una España liberada de yugos interiores o exteriores. Por el aplastamiento del fascismo. Contra la explotación del hombre por el hombre. Por la paz, la libertad, el bienestar y la justicia.

2. Mantenimiento de una firme moral de sacrificio y de victoria para superar las dificultades y facilitar el estricto cumplimiento de las disposiciones del mando.

3. Sentido de responsabilidad, propia y colectiva. Cumplimiento de cada misión sin objeciones, protestas ni reparos. Luchar contra todo factor de discordia y de sabotaje consciente o inconsciente, contra todo germen de murmuración, insidia o indisciplina.

4. Vigilancia contra el derrotismo, la pereza, la vacilación o indecisiones; oído atento para sorprender al espiá o al enemigo emboscado.

5. Limpieza y conservación del arma y su dotación como instrumento indispensable de lucha contra el fascismo. Porque abandonar el fusil significa:

Renunciar voluntariamente a la defensa de la patria, de su soberanía, y reivindicaciones revolucionarias.

Anularse como soldado y combatiente del Ejército Popular y armar el brazo del enemigo para que cumpla sus propósitos de traición nacional de mayor terrorismo y avasallamiento de la clase obrera española y mundial.

Inutilizar el esfuerzo y heroico sacrificio de los camaradas de la industria de guerra y del Gobierno. Quien así lo haga debe ser sancionado con rigor y sin contemplaciones.

6. Conservar las prendas y utensilios personales por más modestos que sean, teniendo en cuenta, que muchos camaradas carecen de ellos. El que tiene de más debe darlo al que lo necesita. Negarse a prestar un lápiz, un jabón, plato, cuchara, etc., denota maldad, cretinismo y egoísmo censurables.

7. Higiene y aseo personal para combatir las enfermedades y vehículos de contagio. Lucha contra el piojo y el alcoholismo. Beber con sobriedad y sin extralimitarse. Dar ejemplos de moral, abnegación y cultura.

8. Lucha en favor de la cultura general, contra el analfabetismo y el vicio. Enseñar pacientemente al que no sabe. Despertar su inquietud por el aprendizaje y el estudio. Autoeducación revolucionaria y social para saber por qué y para qué se lucha.

9. Ayuda mutua y asistencia entre camaradas sin distinción de raza ni procedencia. Mantenimiento de un firme espíritu solidario como elemento indispensable de unidad combativa y política. Lucha contra todo perjuicio regionalista o sectario.

10. Un solo lema: Ganar la guerra. Un solo objetivo: Aplastar al fascismo. Una sola divisa: Ser los primeros en la lucha y el sacrificio. Vencer o morir.

R. VALLÉ CLOZA.
(Boliviano) 59 bon.



SIESTA IN THE LINES
UN MOMENTO DE SIESTA



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BARCELONA

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BARCELONA

JUNE 30 — 1938

OUR NEW COMMANDER

With a genuine heartfelt handshake we greet our new Commander of the 15th Brigade, Comrade José Antonio Valledor. He comes to us after having served on many fronts, principally in the Asturias. He brings with him mountains of experiences gathered during many months of battle against the foreign fascist invaders.

Commander Valledor has been in the Revolutionary Movement since 1924. When the 1934 Asturias Revolt took place he was among the leading active figures. As a result of the oppression that followed he was arrested and sentenced to death by the Lerroux-Robles government. With the passing of power into the hands of the People's Front, he found himself released. When the war broke out he promptly took his place as a soldier among his comrades. He soon rose to Captain and later became Battalion Commander and still later he was given the command of a Brigade. He has an excellent record in the Army of the North. In an order of the day, of that time, he is given special tribute for his brilliant resistance and counter-attacks around Trubia, protecting Oviedo. When Santander fell he took a position in the west of Asturias. Here he fought furiously for 46 days and nights without let-up.

When the North fell he did not leave, but slipped into the mountains to hide and to fight. He finally made his way to the French frontier where, while attempting to cross, he was fired upon and wounded in two places by the fascist Civil Guard and Requetes. He was taken prisoner and jailed at Pamplona and by giving a false name and protecting his identity he was able to cheat the firing squad. After 5 months of heavy prison labor, he made his escape with a sergeant. This time he was able to dodge the frontier Civil Guard and cross into France successfully. Once in France he looked up the nearest Spanish Consul and requested his immediate transfer to Barcelona. He re-incorporated himself into the People's Army and was sent to the Army of the Ebro and now is with us.

We are indeed pleased to have such a splendid and loyal Republican as a comrade and Commander.

While we greet Commander Valledor, we do not — we cannot — forget our former Commander Comrade Vladimir Copic. He has left us, only to contribute his ability and experience in the struggle against fascism on other fronts in other parts of the world. When we think of Comrade Copic, we shall remember his energy, his strategy and guidance on the battle-fronts of Jarama, Brunete, Quinto, Mediana, Belchite, Fuentes de Ebro, Teruel, Segura de los Baños, and in scores of other battles in which he constantly took a leading and courageous part, heading the Brigade into and out of action with a record that has made the name of the 15th Brigade a glorious legend among workers the world over.

Comrade Copic will remain with us as an inspiration to drive ever forward toward that victory Spain so craves — the freedom of its peoples.

We shall know how to assimilate and wield the lessons we have learned under Comrade Copic and shall place them all, with complete confidence, at the disposal of our new commander for him to use in guiding us along the path to final victory over Italian and German fascism.

Welcome, Comrade Valledor! The men of the 15th Brigade are happy to have as their Commander one who comes from so noble and courageous part of Spain as Asturias.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

The «Heraldo de Aragón» of Saragossa published a news item on May 14, 1938, from Seville reporting the arrival in «nationalist» Spain of two representatives of the American Catholics. They are Father Gabriel Salinas and Dr. Duncan of Omaha, Nebraska. They paid a visit to Queipo de Llano and are reported to have declared that American Catholics were lacking in information about the real national Crusade against Communism. Red propaganda, they said, is very widespread; but since the publication of the pastoral letter, Catholics have seen things in their right light and have upheld the «glorious national movement».

They spoke of the work done by Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York, who founded the «Spanish Relief Fund» to «help those who had suffered from the domination of the Communists in Spain». On the first occasion this organization collected 40,000 dollars «as well as a large quantity of ornaments for churches which have been devastated». Porto Rico has distinguished itself in this respect, while the «Casa de España» in New York has done a great deal of collecting and has counteracted the red propaganda of Fernando de los Ríos. It is calculated that the reds have spent some 14 million dollars on propaganda.

The first thing that Fernando de los Ríos did on arrival in Washington they said was to pick up a hammer and smash an image of the Virgin of the Kings, the patron saint of Seville which stood in the Sevillian courtyard of the embassy building.

For one hour every he made use of the radio to slander nationalist Spain in English and in Spanish. Moreover, by means of postcards and leaflets he tried to «misrepre-



sent the high spirit of the Crusade of the Leader Franco».

Then the good Spaniards and all American Catholics began a campaign in favor of the truth the Bishops established the «Holy Hour for Spain», and reviews and newspapers began a campaign in favor of nationalist Spain with the aim of orientating public opinion. The Catholics have made many gifts and the nuns have made ornaments for the churches, clothes for the wounded, etc.

On June 4, 1938 the Bilbao newspaper «Hiero» published an official decree by virtue of which 432 Asturian teachers have been removed from their posts.

THE FIGHT AGAINST TYPHOID FEVER

By Dr. JULIUS HEENEY

Typhoid fever is a disease caused by entrance of the typhoid germ into the digestive system either in water or food which has been contaminated with human excretions. Because the possible courses of infection are such everyday necessities we are constantly in danger of an epidemic which could seriously cripple our brigade and which could certainly cause many deaths in our ranks. Let us not forget that a few months ago in Croydon, near London there was a serious outbreak of typhoid fever from polluted water supply. John Reed, ace reporter and supporter of the October Revolution, met an untimely death from typhoid fever during the Russian Civil War.

Typhoid fever can be prevented by your cooperation in the following precautions:

- 1) Drink only water supplied by the Brigade water truck. Fill your canteens only from this source.
- 2) If for some reason a group cannot be serviced by the water truck, it must boil its water.
- 3) All milk must be boiled.
- 4) Do not eat uncooked fruits or salads not supplied by your kitchen.

5) All latrines must be adequately covered to prevent the carrying of the typhoid germ, and built at a distance of 200 meters from springs and creeks. Remember while we have a safe water supply — comrades from the other units may use a creek which we are polluting.

6) All comrades in kitchens and on food details must observe the strictest standards of cleanliness.

7) No comrade who has previously had typhoid fever is to work in the kitchens or handle food in the companies. Sometimes such persons although apparently recovered are «carriers» of the disease.

8) Every man must receive his typhoid inoculations every 6 months. Inoculations are necessary in addition to the above precautions because it is always possible that a situation may arise where precautions will be inadequate or impossible. But the utmost precaution is necessary after inoculation because it takes some weeks before the inoculations give protection against the disease and because the inoculations are not effective in all cases.

SPANISH NEWS BRIEFS

The Mayor of Fresneda, a real and worth while Republican, succeeded in removing a beautiful tapestry of the year 1620 before his village fell into the hands of the fascists.

It was a difficult undertaking to effect this, but the Mayor was determined and succeeded at last in delivering the valuable tapestry safely into the hands of the Committee in charge of the National Artistic Treasure.

The tapestry was personally handed over to the Committee by D. Francisco Baile, the Civil Governor of Aragon, who together with the Mayor of Fresneda, has been commended by the Committee. This latter organization has done wonders in saving the national artistic wealth from the hands of international fascism.



DELOUSING

QUITÁNDOSE los tres motores.

The soldiers of the 27th Division, who form part of the Army Corps commanded by Lt. Col Del Barrio, have volunteered to help in the work of gathering the harvest in the area immediately behind the front.

The Basque People's Front has issued an appeal to all Basque refugees resident in Catalonia and in particular to peasant refugees, to place themselves at the service of the Government to help in the work of harvesting.

The Civil Governor of Valencia is working out plans for the evacuation of the civilian population from the Valencia harbor area, which has suffered so much in recent weeks from fascist air raids.

In one of the Barracks in Barcelona the soldiers have on their own initiative fitted up a large room as a dining hall in which some 200 children will be fed daily. The soldiers have also undertaken to

look after the general physical condition of the children and to educate and train them. The National Committee of Young Spanish Women has undertaken to help the soldiers in this task.

The soldiers of the 59th Brigade of the 42nd Division are sending four truck loads of food to the workers of the Ford factory in Barcelona. The shipment includes oil, wine and vegetables which the soldiers have themselves salvaged in the immediate neighborhood of the front. They have also decided to give one day's bread ration to the workers of the Ford factory.

The workers of Oran have offered to adopt 500 Spanish children and to look after them until the war is over. The children will travel by bus to Fort Vendres, just over the French Frontier from Catalonia and from there will proceed by boat to Oran.

Some two months ago news was published of the heroic activities of two employees of the Livestock Department who were killed by enemy fire when they were evacuating large herds from danger zones in Aragon.

The Livestock Department has successfully organized and cared for the herds which have been brought from zones either threatened or occupied by the enemy.

The Government pays the shepherds the salaries they previously earned and herds are exploited in the same way as before. Those cattle, sheep, etc., that are to be sacrificed for human consumption are paid for and sold at Government prices and distributed to official food supply centers.

As the herds reached Catalonia in time for shearing, and there were not enough skilled men to perform the task, the Aragon Refugee Center was asked to make up brigades of skilled men from among

the refugees and at present there are more than enough to meet the demand. The shearing has been done and the wool is ready for war needs.

In the village of Trijueque. Province of Guadalajara, where there happened to be no school functioning, the Culture Militia attached to a fortifications battalion decided to open a school for children. At present some 60 children are receiving instruction from the members of the Culture Militia.

In an interview with «Frente Rojo» the President of the Aragonese Workers' Center told of what has been done to look after the thousands of refugees who during the recent fascist offensive streamed into Catalonia from Aragon.

The first thing to be done was to organize dining-halls to feed the refugees. Later a cooperative was established which supplies the refugees with meat, codfish, oil, potatoes, rice, etc.

At present about 32,000 people are enrolled in this cooperative. But it is calculated that equally as many decided to remain in the villages of Catalonia rather than come to Barcelona. In all therefore, about 60,000 Aragonese refugees entered Catalonia from Aragon during March and April 1938.

In view of the bravery shown by the civilian population of Sagunto who have undergone 130 bombardments in their defense of the independence of Spain, the Government has decided to award them the «Distintivo del Valor» (Distinction for Bravery). The flag of the municipal corporation of Sagunto shall display this distinction.

In addition to this the Government has decided to grant the «Medalla del Deber» (Duty Medal) to the metal workers of Sagunto and also to raise their wages.

Antonio Ruiz Vilaplana, author of the book, *Doy Fey* (published in English under the title of *Burgos Justice*) has decided to join the Republican Army in view of the fact his levy has been called up.

Vilaplana, who is at present in Paris and therefore under no compulsion to return to Spain, telegraphed to the Under Secretary of the Prime Minister as follows: «I am included in recent mobilization and am leaving next Sunday to join Army. I ask you to convey to Government my support and my confidence in victory of Republic».

The Union de Muchachas (Young Women's Union) in Madrid issued the following note recently:

«In view of the importance of gathering the harvest, we appeal to all the young women of Madrid and especially to evacuated peasant women at present residing in Madrid to enlist in the brigades which are being organized to help in the work of harvesting. These brigades will be placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Agriculture. Our men folk with their rifles and we women with our sickles will form an unpassable barrier and will defeat the fascist invaders.»

In view of the fact that more than 250 employees of the Madrid tramways have been called for military service in the 1925 and 1926 levies, some seventy women began work as tram conductors on June 3, 1938 in order to assure the normal running of the tram service.

The Federal Left and Federal Democratic Youth Organizations have decided to merge under the name of Federal Republican Youth. This is another step forward in the unity of the youth movement.

(Continued on pag. 8)

PROVISIONAL CULTURE



Call it «The Rome-Berlin-Tokio Axis crushing the eye of Moscow» then. But remember, either it goes over big as modern art, or I reach for my gun.

AT SCHOOL WITH THE GESTAPO



—You say you found a dozen legs, several arms and five or six heads. What deduction did you make?

—Either that we had dealt leniently with a Red agitator or a Red agitator had massacred fifty innocent civilians.

SPANISH NEWS BRIEFS

(Continued from page 7)

An Antwerp Tribunal has returned four Spanish merchant ships to the Republic following the hearing of a case brought against the Spanish Government by rebel shipowners.

On June 18th, the Government published a decree requisitioning the entire wheat and rye crop in the Provinces of Madrid, Guadalajara, Tokio and Cuenca. The wheat and barley thus obtained will be used to feed the civilian population in these four provinces as well as the center army.

Four peasants who were taken prisoner by a Republican patrol behind the rebel lines on April 16th, 1938, came up for trial in Madrid recently. They were accused of disaffection to the regime. All the accused testified their loyalty to the Republican Government and the People's Tribunal accordingly acquitted them.

General Hernández Sarabia has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Army in Catalonia. Since August 1937 he has been Commander-in-Chief of the Iervante Army.

In the recent fighting around Castellon the 70th Brigade, which at one time was surrounded by the fascist forces in the Villafamés sector, managed to break through the enemy lines and to save not only all its men, but also its equipment.

The National Federation of Peasants and the Federation of Workers of the Land have decided to send six thousand refugee families from Castellon to Albacete to help in the work of gathering the harvest.

In view of the success with which the 5 and 10 peseta restaurants are meeting, it has been decided to extend the present scheme and open a third group which will serve meals at a cost of 2.50 pesetas. At first, meals at this price will be served to four or five thousand people, but within a short space of time it is hoped to increase the number to eight or ten thousand. Over 10,000 people are already eating in the 5 peseta restaurants.

On June 16th, 1938, Sr. Gómez Osorio, the Civil Governor of Madrid, declared that following the inventory that has been made in all the shops of the capital it has been found possible to achieve a much more equitable distribution of goods and that as a result prices have fallen considerably.

Hilario Salvadó, the Mayor of Barcelona, has officially opened the new workshops that have been installed in one of the former Exhibition buildings. The purpose of the workshops is to enable all kinds of repairs to be carried out by the municipality without having to rely on private enterprise. It is calculated that a considerable sum will be saved in this way.

FOUR JARAMA BOYS BACK

A group of Mac-Pap boys stopped on the road, "We're going to the Lincoln, they said. Further along was another group off to the Lincoln."

In the British Battalion, the refrain was the same when, those who had been at Jarama, heard.

It began in the morning at Brigade Headquarters. "Four of the American veterans are back!" So we went off to see them. True enough, there they were on the road. Lieutenant Bill Wheeler, Joe Cuban, Joe Rehil, Joe Gordon. All from the Jarama days, who had gone home and were back again.

Naturally, they were overwhelmed with questions; soon they had to move off.

That afternoon we found them in the Lincoln, up at Estado Mayor. It was the most central point for everyone to come and see them anyway.

What did you feel like when you got back home? Joe Cuban answered, "Well you feel out of place. I still had a weak leg and was given a few weeks rest. The boys, everybody, treats you swell. Then, of course, the meetings began. We worked hard but we couldn't forget Spain. I always felt I would come back."

Out of the distance there came that now familiar command. "Pi-um-es!" Izquierda mar! Joe Gordon grinned. "That's what you can call an army, everything's

changed. — you've got discipline organisation."

Said Bill Wheeler, "Yes, we've got a lot to learn and re-learn. These commands in Spanish for instance. We'll have to buckle right down to it."

Visitors were still coming in. Commissar Saul Wellman of Brigade Machine-Gunners had found an excuse to come over. With him E. Biggelman of Observers. There were greetings, questions, counter-questions.

"Sure, there are more veterans coming — they all want to come... yes, she's alright — I saw him just before I left, and so on."

The water was passed round. You could see they were old hands. They didn't spill a drop from the "Botijo". By the way, they smoke anti-tanks without a shudder.

"What do you think of the country now Bill?"

"Well the people seem quieter, more determined. We noticed that in Barcelona and all the way down."

By this time they were being peppered on all sides with personal questions.

We thought it was time to go. One last question.

"What do you think will be the outcome of the war?"

Joe Rehil laughed, "We're here, aren't we. And we certainly don't think we'll be on the losing side."

M. L. M.



On June 18th Captain Brage stepped out of his car, followed by the Brigade Adjutant. Out of the back of the car tumbled half-a-dozen children. What did these grim military men intend to do — we have heard so much of "Red" atrocities. Fortunately we discovered that they intended nothing more desperate than a bath and a good time for the kids, who were Asturian refugees.

Captain Smyrcke is a football fan. The other day he appeared in the commissariat, quite excited. "The machine gunners are a wonderful team aren't they?" he said, "Well my observers have licked them 5 to 1." Not content he recounted a full history of this year's International games. Why not make him chief of football information? By the way, Sol Wellman what are you going to do about this defeat for your gunners.

The following appeared in "Home News" the periodical of the American Y. C. L.

"The Lincoln-Washington Battalion have been wiped out 18 times to date — twelve times by the New York Journal and six times by the New York Evening Post. The last time was at Teruel. Bob Minor's despatches to the Daily exposed this lie for the 'eleventh' time."

Milton Wolfe, commander of the Lincoln-Washington went on leave to Barcelona. It was suggested that he should try to get some trousers long enough for him. "One of these days I'll surprise you all. I'll get some 'pantalones' too long for me," says Milt. But Commissar George Watt is despairing, "he'll never get a pair long enough," he declares.

On June 14th the bitter struggle between the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion and the British Battalion for supremacy on the field of sport, continued. Once more the Mac-Paps beat the British 6 to 1. It is rumored that the British once beat the Canadians but the Canads would refute this as only one more evidence of the British inability to "take it". In answer to this the British have not yet finished laughing at the following incident:

The British Battalion threw a fine feed for the Mac-Paps. After the feed there was a "shouting down" contest between the loudest mouthed comrades from each Battalion.

Good old Butch Goldberg was the Mac-Pap standard bearer and Bob Cooney, Battalion Commissar, was the British representative.

Now Butch was a sort of dark horse. The British looked to their laurels and worried, it seems.

So Butch was given the best in the house — two chickens, they say. That got Butch down — his body and his voice. For when the contest came off Butch could only cackle and Bob just had to talk normally to win.

Now Butch is in the doghouse. Did Butch sell out? the Mac-Paps ask. The British gave him two chickens but the Mac-Paps gave him the bird.

History will decide the issue. Butch may vindicate himself but the referees say the Mac-Paps lost. It's all over but the shouting.

SPECIAL MENTION: The editor of *The Volunteer for Liberty* thanks Hy Chester, No. One Company, Lincoln Bat., for having contributed 1,000 pesetas, his savings for well over a year, to help carry on the work of this paper.

CAMARADA VLADIMIR COPIC

(viene de la página 1)

voluntad, y hoy, cuando el deber lo llama a otros frentes se va contento, alegre, feliz, porque como decía él: "Es señal de una honda capacitación entre los nuevos mandos españoles que están a la altura de guiar con mano firme y segura al Ejército de la independencia nacional de España."

Nosotros hoy sabremos recoger, asimilar, todas las grandes enseñanzas que nos dió nuestro gran JEFE COPIC y estas experiencias harán que pueda utilizarlas el nuevo Comandante para llevar por un camino de Glorias y Victorias a nuestra Brigada.

El Camarada COPIC no se ha ido de nosotros sino que permanecerá siempre en nuestro pensamiento y será como un vigía que perdurará mientras nuestra Brigada siga el camino de la gloria y del triunfo que siempre la ha caracterizado.



EL CAMARADA COPIC
con Merriman y Jim Bourne



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades ★

Vol. II - No. 24

Barcelona, July 7 - 1938

FASCIST DRIVES ON LEVANTE FRONT CHECKED

Ever since the fall of Castellón on June 15, the Republican troops defending the Levante Sector have been putting up a splendid resistance. The enemy continues to attack with even greater violence and with more material than ever before. Artillery bombardments and bombing from the air are unending, but they do not prevent the Republicans from holding their ground till the last and, when they are finally obliged to abandon a position, from counter-attacking and recuperating it.

There were people who declared that, following the enemy break through to the coast at Castellón, the Republican troops would be forced to retreat back to the natural defenses around Sagunto. This has not been the case. The Government troops have fought every inch of the ground and are resisting around Villarreal and Burriana, a few miles south of Castellón, and causing immense losses among the enemy forces.

Although greatly inferior in arms and equipment the Republicans are putting into practice one hundred per cent the slogan put forward by Dr. Negrín: «Resista». How right the Spanish Prime Minister was in maintaining, during the bitter days of the March retreat, that resistance was possible and that it would cause the plans of the enemy to fail. Yet at that time many had not recovered from their initial surprise, which threatened to become crystallized into pessimism and defeatism. Mile after mile of important ground was lost not because resistance was impossible, but because certain people believed it was impossible. Then, in the early days of April, came the change. Inspired by the Prime Minister's words the Spanish people took on new heart and began to show their desire to resist and overcome all difficulties. Resistance grew from day to day, the offensive against Catalonia was slowed down and finally halted, and the

enemy was obliged to turn his eyes towards Sagunto and Valencia.

The German and Italian commands undoubtedly felt that the further they advanced, the weaker the resistance of the Spanish people would become. But in reality this resistance has not broken or grown less; on the contrary, it has steadily increased as may be seen from the two months battle in Levante culminating in the heroic defense of the past weeks south of Castellón.

Time is weighing hard on the enemy. He is using all his means to attain a decisive victory before the winter comes. Yet despite the employment of the latest war material recently sent from Germany and Italy his hopes of defeating the Spanish people are steadily vanishing.

If today a position has been reached in which the combined forces of Germany, Italy and rebel Spain can only advance at a snail's pace and at the cost of tremendous losses, the time may not be far distant when with the incorporation of the five newly mobilized levies into the Republican Army, the enemy will be entirely held.

When that stage is reached the scene of action is automatically transferred to the rearguard and victory will belong to the side with most cohesion and unity.

JACK TAYLOR EXPLAINS ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

The following is the cable recently sent to United States and Canadian newspapers by Jack Taylor:

The entire Spanish press recently carried a radio speech made by Colonel Casado, Chief of Staff of the Army of the Center and which is addressed to the chiefs and officers of the fascist Army Headquarters.

Without going over what was already said on this subject, the main theme of which was: "All of us are ready to smash into pieces the humiliating foreign oppression". It is quite useful to point out what the Colonel said about the International Brigades.

"It is not possible", Colonel Casado stated, "that there is a single

officer in the Rebel Army Headquarters for whom it will be a discovery the certain fact that the fascist camp feels keenly the humiliation of a foreign invasion. I am sure, nevertheless, that many of them commit the lamentable error thinking that in the Loyalist camp the same thing occurs. All of you know me and not one of you ignores the fact that the make up and the characteristics of my temperament prevent me from soiling my lips with lies. Now then, I ask you to take this: I can assure you that in our camp fought only five International Brigades.

"Five Brigades constituted by anti-fascists from various countries, whose losses in the course of campaigns were replaced by Spanish soldiers. Here there are not any Russian units, nor is there a Russian Command. I affirm on my honor that the Army you are facing is the Army of the Republic, an army purely Spanish and which fundamentally fights for the Independence of our fatherland".

It is quite useful to make this reminder. Because in many countries throughout the world, even in the anti-fascist camp, many do not as yet understand exactly what were and what are the International Brigades. All five were constituted towards the end of 1936, some in 1937, as part of 20 Mixed-Brigades newly created by a Government order under the direction of the President of the Cortes (Parliament), Martínez Barrio, who was personally charged with this work. Internationals who volunteered to join the Spanish Republican Army were pure and simple combatants of this Army. They came here to fight and to obey the high command of the Army and to command not only International Units but Spanish units as well.

It is clear that at the very beginning of the formation, the five Brigades were almost totally composed of Internationals with a very strong proportion of Commanders and officers from the ranks of the International volunteers. Everyone understands that

(Continued on page 8)



THIS WORKER KNOWS that his labor in the war factory is helping to insure final victory
ESTE OBRERO comprende que su trabajo en la fábrica de guerra asegura la victoria final

Inculcando los fundamentos de nuestra lucha a todos los combatientes, robusteciendo en ellos la unidad política, fortaleciendo en los mismos el deseo de obedecer y cumplir a todo trance las ordenes CONSOLIDAMOS LA RESISTENCIA. El Comisario ha de crear una sólida disciplina en su unidad que asegure la victoria sobre el fascismo

USE AND CARE OF THE 7.62 RIFLE

by Captain HUGH SLATER

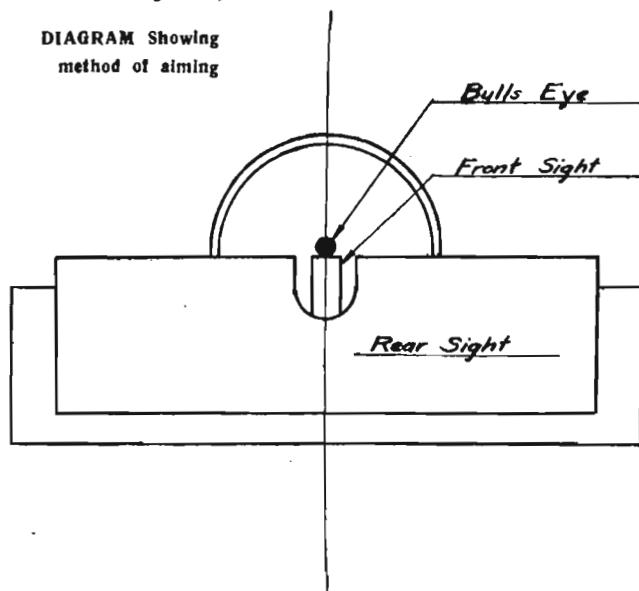
In modern warfare the rifle is the basic military weapon. The rifle, accurately handled, has been the determining factor in many wars. There are many instances of good rifle shooting winning battles against greatly superior forces armed with better technical equipment. During the World War a regiment of American Marines routed an attacking German infantry division with accurate rifle fire. To achieve these results, however, the elements of rifle shooting must be studied, practiced and mastered.

A common position for shooting in warfare is parapet shooting. In shooting from a trench the body must be steadied, either by placing both elbows on a shelf or leaning against the front of the trench. In a fox hole the position should be the standard prone position with both elbows firmly planted on the ground, the left elbow being directly under the rifle. In all parapet shooting, the rifle should be gripped with the left hand, and the hand rested on the parapet. If the gun is rested directly on a hard object it tends to shoot somewhat high.

The prone position is the best where a parapet is not available, as during an attack, because this is the steadiest and most accurate position and the rifleman presents the least target to the enemy. The shooter lies at an angle of about 30° with the line of fire, leg slightly spread, feet flat on the ground. This oblique position is steadier, makes possible a better trigger squeeze, puts the left hand well forward on the barrel and decreases the discomfort caused by recoil. The left hand grips the rifle firmly, well in front of the magazine with the elbow as directly under the rifle as possible. Both elbows should be firmly placed on the ground, right elbow well away from the body. The butt of the rifle should be high in the hollow of the shoulder, not out on the arm.

The sitting position is used when shooting downhill, when the prone position is not high enough to clear an obstruction, and it is far the best position for shooting

DIAGRAM Showing
method of aiming



at avion. The shooter sits facing quarter away from the target, feet equally distant from the body and spread apart according to the man's build. The upper arms rest on the flat spot inside the knees. By pivoting on the buttock the man can turn rapidly in any direction to follow a plane and slight shifts in his position will enable him to shoot at any angle.

The kneeling and standing positions offer a large target to the enemy and are very unsteady. They should be used only when shooting over obstructions on parapets where support for the rifle can be obtained.

The best method of aiming is the usual 6 o'clock hold as shown in the figure. The aim is taken by centering the front sight in the rear sight, the top of the front sight being level with the top of the rear sight. The top of the front sight is now held at the bottom center of the bulls eye. This gives a definite method of aiming and does not obscure the object aimed at.

The 7.62 rifle is zeroed to shoot

center with the bayonet attached. For all ranges up to 300 meters set the sight at 300. At greater ranges the graduations are approximately correct, but the man must find the exact setting by actual firing. Without the bayonet the rifle will shoot quite high and slightly to the right with the regular setting. The rifleman must then aim low left or have the rifle re-zeroed by an armorer.

The most important element in good rifle shooting is the proper trigger squeeze. The average man when shooting a rifle finds he cannot hold the rifle steadily. The front sight moves about on the target and he tries to jerk the trigger off when the sights are aligned. This jerk however, pulls the rifle further off than the slight movement he was trying to avoid.

The proper method is to squeeze the trigger slowly, increasing the pressure when the sights are right, holding it when they swing off. Thus the man doesn't know the exact time when the rifle will fire, but it will be fairly accurately aligned. Also this surprise effect tends to prevent 'flinching', the instinct of hunching up the shoulder against the recoil which causes wild shots.

This method of squeeze will seem very slow and impractical when first tried. However when once formed as a habit it speeds up with practice and soon becomes quick enough for rapid fire. It is the only method of developing a good shot.

During the trigger squeeze it is necessary to hold the breath because the movement of the body in breathing will cause the sights to wobble. Take a deep breath and exhale, then inhale slightly, so the muscles of the diaphragm will be at rest during the squeeze.

To develop into an expert rifleman considerable 'dry fire' is necessary as well as practice on the range. Five or ten minutes each day should regularly be devoted to this. It is only necessary to assume the prone position, pick

out a target on the hill and squeeze off the empty rifle at it. This practice must be taken seriously though, as if shooting cartridges; otherwise sloppy habits instead of proper ones will be formed, and the practice will have been worse than useless.

Proper safety habits must be developed. If the following rules are adhered to, accidents will be reduced to zero. First, never point a gun at a person unless you intend to kill him. Second, when picking up any weapon for handling, open the bolt and examine the magazine and chamber for cartridges; do this regardless of how sure you are that it is empty.

A good rifleman with a 7.62 rifle in good condition can keep all his bullets in a 8 (20 cm.) circle at 300 meters. Even a slightly rough barrel will stay in a 12, (30 cm.) circle and practically all rifles in a 16 (40 cm.) circle. When the statement is made that this or that rifle will not hit the side of a hill, it means either that the man does not know the zero of the rifle, or that he cannot shoot accurately and relies on chance for his hits.

Rifles should be cleaned and oiled religiously after firing; otherwise the primer salts left in the bore will start corrosion within 12 hours. This corrosion roughens the bore and decreases accuracy, and makes the rifle more difficult to clean in the future. Hot water, preferably soapy, is the best cleaner for primer salts. This is seldom available, however, and usually the rifle must be cleaned by swabbing the bore with gasoline, and then with oil, or even with oil only. In using rod or pull-thru, be careful not to let it bear too hard on the side of the barrel, or wear will occur with consequent loss of accuracy.

After cleaning, inspect by wiping dry, and then oil barrel and chamber with lightly oiled patch to prevent rusting. Caution: the rifle must be cleaned and oiled every day even if not fired or it will rust. In the field if cleaning equipment is not available, an emergency method of retarding corrosion is to fire the rifle at least once every 12 hours. The bolt mechanism should be wiped free of dirt and the cocking cam, bolt lugs and extracting cam particularly must be oiled. All points which are polished by friction should be lightly oiled.

Don't use a muzzle plug, it causes rust, and eventually you will forget to remove it and bell the barrel. Getting the muzzle full of mud will do the same thing.

If during firing the bolt tends to stick, cock by pulling cocking head to rear, and then raise bolt handle. This eliminates the friction in the cocking cam and the force necessary to compress the spring. For accurate fire the long heavy boat-tailed bullet with the yellow tip is best and should be obtained when possible. This bullet is not hard on barrels, nor is the black tipped anti-tank bullet. The yellow tip bullet and a good 7.62 rifle is a combination with which the rifleman can do excellent shooting.



CARE of the rifle will insure its accuracy of fire and durability.
TU FUSIL es el arma de nuestra victoria. Cuida tu fusil bien



59th Battalion comrades
Camaradas del 59 Batallón

“En las manos de la juventud tenemos los destinos y la suerte de toda la humanidad”

Siempre a la juventud le ha sido dispuesto el haber de decidir e intervenir en los problemas de la humanidad. Han sido sus ansias renovadoras y sus inquietudes las que han hecho evolucionar todo el mecanismo del sistema de vivir. Han sido sus ardores, y con su entusiasmo y esfuerzo, que se han transformado leyes y costumbres, anticuadas e impropias.

Pero nunca como ahora — sobre todo en nosotros, juventud española — nos habían sido reservadas responsabilidades tan grandes como las presentes. En las manos de la juventud de hoy tenemos los destinos y la suerte de toda la humanidad. De nosotros depende el salvar la civilización — la evolución efectuada — pasada; las libertades y avances presentes y las posibilidades de superación futuras; hoy todas ellas, de cerca amenazadas por la barbarie fascista.

La juventud pasada, hasta ahora ha ido cumpliendo con su deber y con su misión histórica.

De nosotros, la juventud española presente, no puede decirse tampoco que no se haya situado al nivel que las circunstancias han requerido. Hemos dejado en momentos oportunos las herramientas del aprendizaje y del trabajo, y los libros del estudio, para empuñar el fusil, y hoy llenamos orgullosos las filas del Ejército Regular. La juventud entera del mundo, consciente y capaz, también cumple con su deber desde donde se encuentra, pero a nuestro lado los más aulaces.

Sabemos que aún tenemos que salvar dificultades enormes. Por las perspectivas, vemos, que pueden venir incluso situaciones más difíciles. Pero por encima del aspecto adverso y por más que las condiciones quieran presentarse duras, creo firmemente que sabremos acaramos a ellas y con ventaja superar sus dificultades.

Cierto es, que lo que se pide de nosotros es un esfuerzo supremo y que sea decisivo para derrotar al fascismo. Pero no es menos cierto que nos estamos capacitando y preparando para dar en el momento preciso el golpe mortal que se necesita.

Cierto es que lo que se espera de

nosotros — vencedores de esta lucha en un día no lejano — es ser los organizadores de nuestra victoria. Pero no es menos cierto que en el momento preciso seremos los técnicos y los manuales, los dirigentes y los productores, para juntos revivir todas las posibilidades industriales y agrícolas de nuestro país. Para este fin, estudiamos y estudiaremos con la intensidad que sea necesaria; y así poder ofrecer al mundo avanzado y que progresa, un pueblo floreciente, amante de la libertad y de la justicia.

Cierto es que existe mucha juventud aún, — producto de los regímenes pasados — inconsciente e ignorante. Pero no es menos cierto que hoy — una vez conocidos otros horizontes — ha visto nacer dentro de su espíritu una profunda ansia y un afán de superación que antes no había sentido. Con un pequeño esfuerzo nada más, esta juventud — digna de compartir junta la responsabilidad de esta lucha — será mañana la excelente colaboradora en las tareas constructivas y productoras del país.

Grandes posibilidades de superación, y tened fe en la juventud de hoy!!!

VALENTIN MULLOR



¿Empieza el Africa en los Pirineos? o “Les événements d’Espagne”

Por el Capitán Germán Hernández Antón

Los que hemos salido de España hemos podido ver con consternación que la prensa reaccionaria procuraba por todos los medios a su alcance desnaturalizar el origen, trascendencia y consecuencias del eterno — y ya en vía de solución — problema interno español.

«Les Evénements d’Espagne», era el encabezamiento con que en la citada prensa titulaban y describían las heroicas y desiguales luchas que el pueblo español sostenía solo por conseguir que en el Escudo Nacional se inscribieran las sublimes palabras de *Libertad, Fraternidad e Igualdad*, palabras que si bien estaban muy lejos de interpretarse al pie de la letra, al menos se habían reconocido oficialmente en la mayor parte de las constituciones que regían en Europa, a excepción de las que regían la Península Ibérica. Nosotros los españoles, en nuestras eternas luchas cotidianas y diarias, sí, lo bastante para nosotros, pero no debemos ignorar que lo que pedíamos no suponía nada en el resto de Europa, ya que en la mayor parte de las Naciones, por lo que nosotros luchábamos ya lo habían conseguido. Con esto quiero decir que a juicio mío el fondo político y social de todas las luchas que en España hemos sostenido a pesar de las diferentes tendencias que han caracterizado los distintos movimientos más o menos subversivos, en el fondo lo que pretendíamos conseguir sólo era europeizar a España, porque como españoles, nos dolía ver a nuestra Patria no ir a la zaga, no, sino desprenderse de la caravana de potencias que formaban el cortejo europeo, porque como puros patriotas (sin confundirnos con los que tanto blasonan de lo mismo) nos avergonzaba el gran censo de analfabetos que daban las estadísticas oficiales, la gran cantidad de Directores de Empresas, Ingenieros, etc., extranjeros, que venían a España a mandarnos y gobernarnos para vergüenza y oprobio nuestro, así como si la raza que durante siglos llevó el timón del Mundo en todos los órdenes, armas, política, ciencia y letras, hubiera degenerado a tal punto de ser una raza inferior, incapaz de instruirse y organizarse, por lo que se veía en la necesidad de importar cerebros, técnicos y directores. A nosotros, los españoles cien por cien, nos indignaba ver los caminos de Irún y Port Bou, como cordones de hornigas, españoles que con su saco al hombro, dejaban la tierra que les habían dicho que era rica y que además ellos por experiencia lo sabían, para ir a dar su sudor y su sangre al extranjero, para que otras naciones se enriquecieran a costa nuestra; dejaban su tierra, su España, su Patria en manos del Feudal y convertida en cotos o en criales, mientras les decían que dada la calidad de la tierra y el clima español, España podría mantener cincuenta millones de habitantes, y sin embargo, por la incapacidad, egoísmo e incompreensión de los que la regían teniendo veintidós millones, tenían que emigrar a países extranjeros, donde nos explotaban, mientras éramos sanos y fuertes, y se nos repatriaba cuando ya no podíamos trabajar.



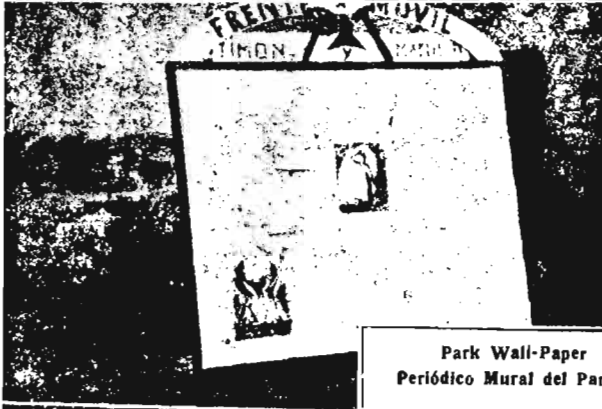
Capitán Germán Hernández, who was commander of 59th Battalion and who has now been transferred to the 11th Brigade.
El Capitán Germán Hernández, que era comandante del 59 Batallón y ahora ha sido trasladado a la 11 Brigada

Los que emigrábamos veíamos cómo en esas potencias, a pesar de no ser respetados como los hijos del país, con frecuencia se nos respetaba más que en nuestra patria, y también veíamos con frecuencia que convencidos por esa prensa jesuita y fastidiosa que encabezaba los reportajes sobre nuestra patria con el título de «Les événements d’Espagne», se nos decía de una forma categórica o humorística — para el caso poco importa — que África empezaba en los Pirineos. Estos insultos yo los escuché hasta el año 1935, en que procedente de Francia regresé a España, y los escuchaba entonces cuando precisamente, bien o mal gobernada, España la gobernaban los españoles; entonces cuando a los niños en la escuela los educaban con el odio al moro y a la media luna, sin que ésta se atreviera a ultrajar, insultar y profanar a la Santa Cruz de Cristo, y sin que un solo moro, ni uno para medicina, pisara la tierra que enriquecieron sus antepasados, porque eso era considerado como un insulto a la bandera.

África empieza en los Pirineos... «Les événements d’Espagne»... ¿Y qué dirá aquella maldita prensa ahora? Ahora que en la España sometida al invasor se disfrutaban menos libertades que en cualquier Colonia del Imperio inglés o francés, ¿qué dirá ahora que los moros y la media luna solemnemente forman parte del séquito del ridículo generalísimo? No sé lo que dirá, ni me hace falta el saberlo, pero me lo figuro y sólo el pensarlo me indigno y me avergüenza y por eso digo que en estos momentos tenemos que gritar todos los españoles como aquel gran españolista, que su partido no eran ni la República ni la Monarquía, ni el Socialismo, ni la Anarquía; su partido era España: «Españoles, europeizarse». Ese grito tan de actualidad aunque su autor ya no está entre los vivos, lo lanzó el león de Graus, Joaquín Costa, aquel que en el Ateneo de Madrid tanto le tenían los zarzapos. En estos momentos difíciles porque atraviesa España, la patria, debemos invocar su memoria y los españoles transformarnos en leones, cuyos zarzapos uñidos, exterminen de una vez para siempre al invasor, y para conseguirlo seamos leones en el trabajo, en el estudio y en el combate, por la Patria. ¡Españoles, a europeizarse!



Repairing a motorcycle
Reparando una motocicleta



Park Wall-Paper
Periódico Mural del Parque



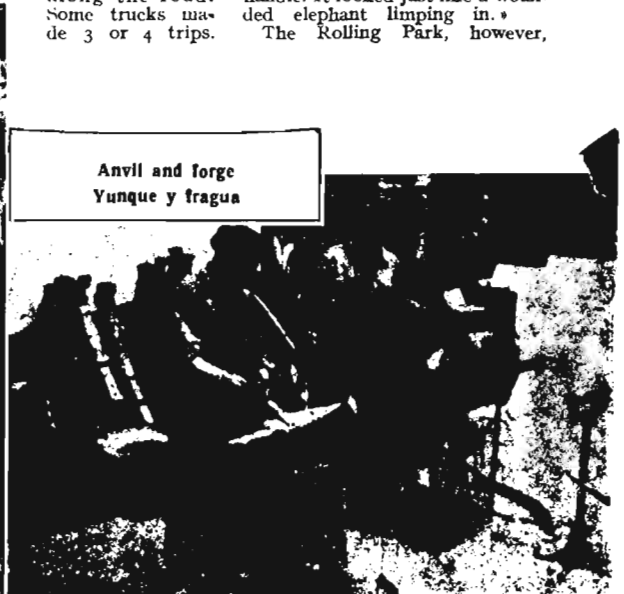
The Water Tank
El tanque de agua



Emanuel Arkas, Chief mechanic
El jefe de los mecánicos



Meal time
La hora de la comida



Anvil and forge
Yunque y fragua



On Convoy

THE 15TH BRIGA

By M. L

The Kitchen brings you food, the Intendencia gets you clothes, the Commissariat provides your press, the Armory sends you munitions, and because all these things are necessities you recognise the value of the services. But how often do you think of a group of men without whom none of these things would be possible? They are the men who sit at the wheel of the camions that bring up supplies, and because they go about their job quietly and efficiently, they often go unnoticed. They are the men of the Auto Park. Behind their efficiency lies the organisation of the two departments of the Auto Park: the Rolling Park and the Base Garage.

The work of the camion-drivers is directly controlled from the Rolling Park—the center for all effective vehicles—which is under the supervision of Sergeant Eusey Goldstein. From here they receive their commissions and they return here when their job is completed.

Let Eusey, who has been with the Auto Park since it became a really effective unit just before Belchite last year, tell us something about it.

«Hell», he says «we hadn't many camions, maybe 15 or 16 when the order came to take the boys to Belchite. I arrived. Why? Old trucks, breakdowns along the road. Some trucks made 3 or 4 trips.

Anyway our drivers knew their job. They went out to «organize» fascist camions—and they did. One of them found a machine gun in the church tower between him and a new truck. The fascist tried to get him, but he stuck on in a house opposite and drove the truck out at night still under fire.

«The result was that we finished up with some twenty first class camions and a water-tank.

«We wanted tools, accessories, parts and the fascists obligingly supplied us with them at Teruel. Incidentally some of our boys disturbed a fascist underground nest and gave chase—oh no, it's not entirely a quiet life.

«More recently a funny incident happened at Licera. The enemy sprayed our water-tank with machine gun fire and burst the water container that supplied the engine. Bill Chega was driving and like all our drivers he doesn't leave his truck if he can help it. He stuck around awhile until he hit on an idea. Well, we laughed like hell when we saw him come in. There was one soldier sitting on the radiator feeding the engine with water through the hose from the tank and another was turning the pump handle. It looked just like a wounded elephant limping in.»

The Rolling Park, however,



En convoy

DE AUTO PARK

MILLER

could not function without the Base Garage where all heavy repairs are done. Emanuel Arkas, the head mechanic is like the man who said that he had an umbrella for twenty years.) — «I've changed the stick five times, the reks seven times and had it recovered twelve times.». He makes cars out of salvaged parts that they pick off the road. That is why Sergeant Greenstein, boasts that they still have trucks from Jarama, though they won't take bets as to whether there is an original part left.

Joe Greenstein, head of the Base Garage, told some interesting stories about the drivers. «There's Allen Foot, who got food to the boys by driving his camion over the fields after the roads had been cut; or «Pop» Pitt who worked his camion 5 days and 5 nights bringing up ammunition to the line; of the driver who brought his camion over the hills when he was surrounded on every road.»

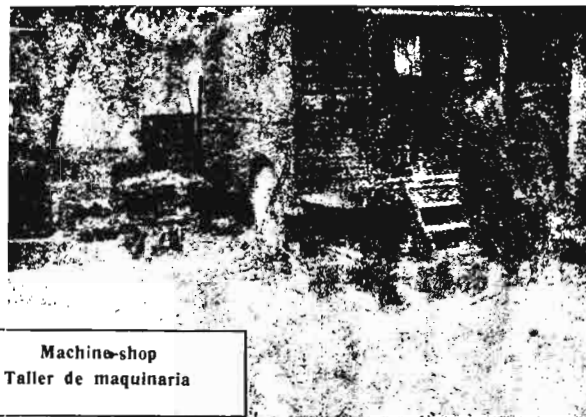
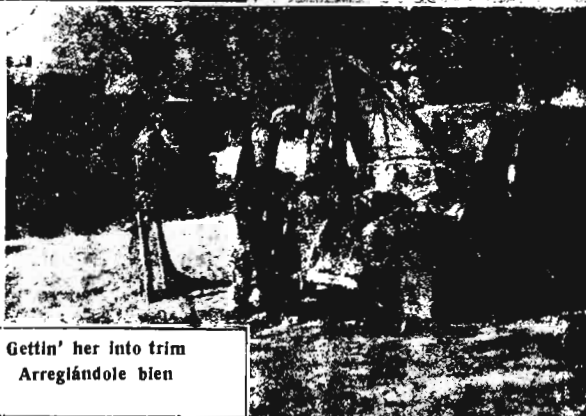
At the Garage they not only rebuild cars, they make mechanics. Sam Gushak, the Commissar of the Auto Park, will tell you of the 25 young Spaniards who joined the Park at Mondejar. Now 2 of them are expert mechanics and the rest of them are proving extremely valuable. Sam, by the

way, boasts of the two cooks that the Park possesses. Wryly he remarked, «the Park is famed for its good food and its hospitality. Anyone with the slightest excuse drops in for a meal. Its driving our quartermaster crazy.»

Last, but not least, the work of the two departments is coordinated under the command of Teniente Pedro Sánchez. It's a tribute to Sánchez that the work runs so smoothly that the camions do their job without a hitch. But all the boys do their share and they do it well. As Arkas says, «There isn't a job we can't fix», and they are justly proud of it.

The men of the Auto Park form the spine of our Brigade. Their good or bad work reflects the mobility of the Battalions and the entire Brigade. A truck, out on a assignment, that goes on the bum may disorganize the plans of the Brigade Staff Commanders. In any case, it holds things up.

But the Auto Park has proven that it knows how to work and how to serve the Brigade with the maximum of efficiency. These comrades with the greased hands have also shown that they can «take it» and make the necessary sacrifices that true anti-fascists have often been called upon to make in this war for the National Independence of Spain.

Machine-shop
Taller de maquinariaGettin' her into trim
Arreglándole bienEasey Goldstein at headquarters of
"rolling park". — El camarada Goldejein
en el Estado Mayor del "rolling park"Lt. Pedro Sánchez,
who heads the Auto Park
El Teniente jefe del ParquePark group listen to their accord-
ionist. — Un grupo del Parque
escuchando a su acordeonistaSam Gushak,
Auto Park Commissar
El Comisario del Parque



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BRIGADE HELPS IN THE FIELDS

«Descanso! Volunteers are wanted to help the peasants in the fields». Half the company steps forward, the names are taken of the first twenty. After coffee these men form up and march to a small village. They are already addressed as «campesinos» by the responsables. This alone seems to bring us nearer to the country, associating us intimately with the people and the earth of Spain. I walk along thinking of this association which is true for everyone, and is conscious in the mind of the International, which can be emphasised so strongly by the act of being spoken to as «campesino».

In the village the farmers of the land wait for us. Ten of us are chosen to go with a cheerful campesino arrayed in corduroy trousers, alpargatas and striped shirt. We round two corners to his house and we all drink wine. There's an interchange of Brigade Spanish and Catalan. It is obvious that he is pleased to be in the company of soldiers from an International Brigade, more pleased to know that they are there to help him...

Out into the fields along tracks and through narrow sunken lanes we are shown how to trim the vine plants; strip off the shoots which grow between the junctions of the stems and the large leaves. The campesino patiently repeats «las hojas, no», until we have it correct and then, starting with a row each, our work commences.

Slowly circling round each plant, pulling away the shoots, each time more skillfully and quickly, the line advances down the field. Although it is a long and intermittent task, it is a pleasant job, giving a man time to feel the sun. Beyond the fields to the west is a range of mountains, beyond them not far away lies the front. Sometimes a Spaniard sings or an Englishman swears when a clegg bites, but these are normal peacetime occupations. Occasionally the campesino comes to one of our rows to assist, perhaps to say again «las hojas, no», then a friendly pat on the shoulder and he goes to another row. Occasionally a jar of water is passed around.

At two o'clock, judged by the peasant who can tell by the height of the sun, all of us walk to a small hut. Some bathe in an irrigation dam. (I can believe that the original object of these dams were to cool down the heated field workers.) The farmer and his very old and cheerful father give us newly pulled onions, and they protestingly accept a little of our food. Everyone lies under a mat tree for the inestimable siesta. In the afternoon we work up and down more rows of vines. When our afternoon work is done we start back for the Brigade. The campesino showers us with words of appreciation, gratitude and affection. He hopes to see us again and we shall be glad to come back.

FRANK ANTRIM



SPANISH YOUTH representing different youth organizations. All have long ago buried their axes to fight their common foreign invader. They are part of the 59th Battalion JUVENILDES ESPAÑOLES miembros de varias organizaciones juveniles. Todos ahora están juntos contra la invasión extranjera. Son miembros del 59 Batallón

Mrs. HOLLOWAY, AUSTRALIAN, VISITS BRIGADE

On June 17th and 18th the Brigade was visited by Mrs. Alice Holloway, in Spain on her way back from the Soviet Union. Mrs. Holloway had been sent as a delegate to the May Day celebrations in the U. S. S. R., by the Women's Auxiliary of the Australian Railwaymen's Union and while there had met the 20 Spanish delegates who were there for the same purpose.

She recounted the manner in which the Spanish delegation had been welcomed.

«Wherever they went», she said, «they were simply overwhelmed with flowers and gifts. On May Day as they walked into the Red Square in Moscow a tremendous roar of applause greeted them and the Russian workers were equally enthusiastic at all the places they visited.»

It was on the invitation of the delegation that she came to Spain. She was enthusiastic about everything she had seen, especially about her visit to the Brigade and she was thrilled by her talk to the Australians and all «the wonderful boys.»

As we talked a company of Spanish comrades marched by singing at the top of their voices.

«You know», she said, «that's typical of all I've seen of the Spanish people — always singing from morning till night. A nation so obviously undaunted will never be beaten.»

They were doing a great deal in Australia for Spain, she went on, and her experiences here would make her determined to redouble her efforts. «My organisation has adopted one of the Spanish children who are being cared for in Australia, but I feel now, as if I could convince them to adopt the whole colony.»

In her hand she held a Brigade history and an International Brigade Album signed by many prominent members of the Brigade. She intends to make good use of them when she gets home, and she is planning and exhibition of photographs which she has obtained during her stay.

M. I. M.



MARCHING SONG OF THE 2ND COY OF THE BRITISH BATTALION

D'ye ken the traitor Franco
Whose hair is turning grey?
D'ye ken the traitor Franco
Whose had his little day?
D'ye ken the traitor Franco
He's fading away?
As the day of the workers is daw.
[ning.]

For the sound of our voices
Have filled him with dread,
And the clamour of the people
Has endangered his head,
And soon the poor fellow'll
Be wishing he was dead,
For the day of the workers is daw.
[ning.]

Yes we ken the traitor Franco
And his motley crew:
Onclepo and Musso
And the paper-hanger too,
From defence to attack,

From attack to the kill,
As the day of the workers is daw.
[ning.]

Yes we ken the traitor Franco,
Who's found he could not stay,
He lived at Burgos
One on a day,
But now he has gone
Far, far away,
For he fled to Salamanca in the
[morning.]

BILL HARRINGTON



JOE GORDON

by M. Mickenberg

When volunteers go home and then decide to come back again to Spain and to the International Brigades, it is a significant thing. It shows that this anti-fascist war is a struggle which must be fought to a finish. It proves that good men cannot stay away so long as their comrades are still on the firing line for democracy.

The 15th Brigade, like all the other brigades, has seen it happen before. Some time ago, a number of English and Irish comrades went home, found that they could not rest and rejoined the ranks out here. Now the first group of American and Canadian repatriates have done the same. Undeterred by Republican Spain's recent setbacks, they crossed 3,000 miles of ocean once more, made the tough pilgrimage over the Pyrenees, went into training again, and at last reached their goal—the front lines against international fascism.

These men deserve tribute. Twice they could have remained at home. Twice they have freely entered one of the most ruthless wars the world has ever known. It is important to know who these comrades are and to understand their attitude.

Take Joe Gordon, one of the outstanding men of the group. His is among the most famous names in the history of the original Lincoln Battalion. He was a member of the very first boatload of Americans bound for Spain, sailing on Christmas Day 1936. To do that he took an informal departure from the U. S. Army. Madrid was calling, and there could be no time for formalities when the need for trained men was so acute. And Joe was experienced in artillery, cavalry and training methods. He couldn't hesitate in such an emergency.

For Joe was also an experienced and convinced trade unionist. He had learned to be a worker-soldier. Few of his organization's picket lines and demonstrations found him anywhere but in the thick of it. Police clubs, jail sentences, pitched battles with strike-breaking thugs—these were all part of the game to Joe so long as the cause of the union went forward. The courageous devotion of members like Joe Gordon has given that union its superb record and reputation. To mention its name is perhaps enough. It is the Furriers Union, unquestionably one of the hardest-hitting and most thoroughly progressive trade unions of America. A considerable number of its members have come to Spain.

As is already known, the Lincoln Battalion hit the line for its baptism of fire in the middle of February last year. The first heavy engagement occurred on February 23 at the height of the Government counter offensive to hold the Madrid-Valencia highway. During that night occurred one of those heroic episodes that give true meaning to the word "comrade". It was the rescue of Captain John Scott, infantry company commander. Shot through the stomach, he lay close to the fascist lines. It was a perilously exposed spot even in the dark-

Jarama Volunteer Returns

ness. Joe had participated in the operation and he came back to get help for his commander. Volunteers stepped forward with a stretcher. Running, crouching and crawling, Joe led them to where Captain Scott lay. Several men were killed in the act. But Scott came in, unfortunately to die only a few minutes later.

The book of the 15th Brigade, recently published, contains Joe's own account of the rescue. Because it is told with the singled and direct truthfulness of a man who lived through it, that story has already begun to be considered one of the finest epics of personal courage and comradesly devotion in the records of all the International Brigades.

That rescue was simply in line of duty to Joe Gordon. He was at his post again as an infantryman when the sun rose and the battle raged on. In the afternoon he was wounded by a bullet along the side of his head. Covered with blood, he was taken away and few expected him to survive. But expert medical care pulled him through, even though the vision of his left eye was destroyed and can never be restored. He was in the hospital for many months, emerging in time to rejoin the battalion just before it entered the Brunete offensive.

He became a group leader in the infantry. Again he distinguished himself in action. When the battalion received perhaps the worst field bombardment of the war up to that time, it was in position to reinforce Spanish troops at Villanueva del Parillo against an expected fascist counter-attack. The bombardment was co-ordinated with the fascist counter-advance so as to stop reinforcements from strengthening the threatened line.

But the instant the bombs stopped falling the order was given to reach a ridge above, where Spanish comrades were manning a vital position. There began a wild sprint almost two kilometers uphill to get to that ridge in time to help beat off the fascist attack. As is already well known, the job was

done with full success. But Joe Gordon's group was the first to reach the ridge, and Joe himself was the first American to open fire. For that reason, when all was quiet later, the Spanish brigade commander came over and thanked Joe for the service rendered by the battalion.

A few days afterward, at Brunete, Joe was wounded again. To this day he carries a piece of shrapnel in his left leg. It cannot be removed. He was invalided home last fall.

Before he left, however, his brother Leo had arrived to carry on the family's anti-fascist reputation. And Leo Gordon did carry on—until he was lost in the recent fighting on the Aragon. But Joe's

grief over his brother is only part of what brought him back to Spain, back to the unromantic and dangerous battlefields. Until fascism is defeated here, he feels he cannot deserve the right either to rest on his laurels or forget his sacrifices. He hates fascism more than he loves glory.

At home Joe Gordon took care of himself, rebuilding his physical condition. When he decided he was strong enough he sailed as soon as possible. It may have been noticed how warmly the old-timers welcomed him back. For, despite his one eye and injured leg, Joe Gordon is a living example of the truth that among anti-fascists, it is the spirit which counts above everything else.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE THIRTEEN POINTS

by MILES TOMALIN

Winner, 3rd Prize, Brigade Essay Contest on Republic's 13 Points

Dr. Negrín's statement on the war aims of the Spanish Government signalises the final achievement of unity among all parties and groupings within the Republic. The immediate effect will be to eliminate the weaknesses and confusion, caused by conflicting policies and mutual antagonisms, which retarded the full development of the country's war organisation.

Abroad, the document will be read first as a manifesto of the Republic's determination to fight the war out, and a denial, unanimous throughout the country, of any current stories that the Government are contemplating capitulation. In outlining the purpose for which the struggle is being upheld, Dr. Negrín disposes of the suggestion that there is a revolutionary aim behind it. The Thirteen Points include nothing that is unfamiliar to the sincere democrat; as a statement of ideals, it merely states afresh the principles which he holds sacred. Nor is it more than a reaffirmation of the Constitution which put the

People's Front peaceably into power in February 1936. It is therefore a proof that those who carry war against the Republic are contesting democracy as an institution and have been doing so from the start. It leaves the democrat with the alternatives of supporting the Spanish Government or ranging himself on the side of the Fascists—there is no logical middle course.

The announcement was made at a moment when progressive people of all colours were conducting demonstrations based on a demand for aid for Spain. Dr. Negrín commanded the attention of an audience not only world-wide but ranging diversely from conservatives to Communists. There was something for all. Reasonable respect for property rights, home and foreign, to gratify the progressive elements of the old order. Restoring of power balance in the Mediterranean to encourage those who were concerned about the British empire's eastward seaway. Amelioration of working class conditions for social democratic waverers. Adherence to collective security and rejection of vindictive reprisals for the peace-lovers. National independence and freedom of thought for all.

The third section to which the manifesto is directed is the Spanish population within fascist territory. To them, the Government program offers a far freer life than they are at present enjoying. Minority groups are offered the independent rights that fascism denies them. All are incited to discontent without fear of retribution after the war has been won. The Thirteen points will give these people a hope and a reassurance of the Republic's strength.

No intelligent revolutionary will regard this manifesto of democracy as a step away from his own aims. On the contrary, it is an expression of the only effective means by which national independence can be achieved, and this as he knows, is a necessary preliminary to the emancipation of the working-class.



STUDYING at the divisional school for commissars
ESTUDIANDO en la Escuela de Comisarios de la División

DISERTACIONES

UN ESTÍMULO

Por ARTURO NAVARRA

Sirvan estas líneas en los momentos presentes, como un pequeño estímulo entre nuestros soldados, encaminado a la aportación de un modesto concurso más en la lucha que sostenemos, para mediante una vulgarización de las mismas, contribuir en lo posible a la supresión o mejor dicho, la reducción del porcentaje de las enfermedades venéreas que tantas balas están causando en nuestras filas precisamente en los momentos en que el factor hombre no es de una incontrovertible necesidad.

¡Cuántas veces por exceso de confianza o por descuido, has incurrido, soldado, en tan perjudicial quebranto de tu salud! En innumerables ocasiones has gozado de algún permiso que te ha sido concedido para el descanso y tu aseo personal como asimismo para otra índole de necesidades justificadas y tú lo has utilizado de forma tan descuidada que tú mismo sin darte cuenta, has restado un hombre al ejército que lucha por la libertad, por la dignificación humana y por la elevación del grado de cultura física e intelectual de nuestra raza. Asimismo te has causado un perjuicio con respecto a tu propia salud, contrayendo una enfermedad que puede ser la total ruina de tus energías físicas y la destrucción, en infinitud de casos, de tus supremas aspiraciones futuras en lo que concierne a la procreación y por lo tanto has contribuido a poner un obstáculo al engrandecimiento y perfección de nuestra raza. Una de las enfermedades más vulgarmente conocida, dentro de las llamadas venéreas, es la Blenorragia y quizás sea la más extendida. Para esta enfermedad, si el contagio es evidente, no debéis hacer otra cosa que observar una gran higiene e inmediatamente consultar al Médico de tu unidad para que te ponga en tratamiento, pues esta enfermedad, si la abandonas por no constituir para ti un motivo de alarma, como sucede en muchos casos, te puede acarrear serias complicaciones como son la Prostatitis, Cistitis, Orquitis, etc., incluso puede producirse la muerte, como ha sucedido en no pocos casos, por Septicemia gonocócica o sea la invasión de la sangre por el gonococo. Otras innumerables complicaciones te podría citar, pero el objeto de estas líneas no es otro que el que al principio he indicado.

Esto se puede evitar, mediante infinitud de procedimientos que hoy día existen al alcance de todos. El Jefe Médico de tu unidad, o en su defecto el practicante, te puede informar de todos ellos si es que los desconoces; existen en forma de pomadas, en inyecciones y como garantía de seguridad, el preventivo de caucho, aparte de otros muchos procedimientos. Siendo así, ¿por qué llegar al trance de contraer una grave enfermedad venérea o sífilítica?

Igualmente los que habéis padecido algún chancre u otra manifestación de tipo sífilítico no debéis descuidados para vosotros mismos y debéis poner todo lo que esté de vuestra parte, para llevar a cabo el tratamiento que es necesario casi anualmente; solicitud de vuestros Jefes Médicos respectivos, si

es que ellos lo creen oportuno, el análisis de vuestra sangre y de esta forma mantendréis en pie la cooperación que tan abnegadamente estáis llevando a cabo en nuestro glorioso Ejército Popular.

Tened siempre una higiene continua y practicada de una forma eficaz y muy especialmente en el desgraciado caso de contraer una enfermedad venérea.

La Blenorragia es enfermedad cuya existencia se determina fácilmente por las manifestaciones características siguientes: a los breves días del contagio, escozor persistente y ligero, después, algo más intenso e inmediatamente, supuración, algunas veces muy abundante y simultáneamente aumento de escozor con dificultad en las micciones.

Os podría enumerar infinitud de síntomas y datos de otras enfermedades tales como Sífilis, chancros venéreos, adenitis, etc., etc., pero ya en este caso este tema rebasaría los límites del objeto para el cual ha sido escrito.

¡Evitad, puesto que está en vuestra mano conseguirlo, el contagio venéreo o sífilítico! Tened en cuenta que indefectiblemente es peligroso el enemigo que merma nuestras filas en forma de plaga terrible e inexorable. Es de esperar de vuestra capacidad y de vuestra cultura, tomaréis estos vulgares y modestos consejos, para evitar, como ya os he indicado, la elevación de porcentaje de los casos venéreos en nuestra lucha incesante y colmada de buenas intenciones para conseguir la mayor eficacia en nuestras filas y la robustez física que requiere nuestro

JACK TAYLOR EXPLAINS ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

(Continued from page 1)

this was due to an enormous lack of cadres in the People's Army which at that time was in the process of formation. The prohibition of the arrival of volunteers into the Republic towards the end of February of 1937, shutting off the sources for reinforcements has automatically and rapidly transformed the five Brigades, called Internationals, into units which after the summer of 1937 were in their majority Spanish. Insofar as the officers are concerned this process was evidently slower than for the soldiers. The losses in battles could not but serve most naturally in the direction of the development of cadres.

That is what the *New York Times* has discovered from Paris towards the end of May, this year—that the Republican People's Army, of which the International Brigades form a part, is commanded by Spanish officers, something which was the rule at all times. How could it possibly be otherwise in an army that counts nearly a million combatants—volunteers and recruits—sons of the great Spanish people, which up till now has mobilized only to the age of 32? This Army is today



AMMUNITION DUMP.—DEPÓSITO DE MUNICIONES

¿QUE ES UN CABO?

UN CABO DEL EJÉRCITO POPULAR

La República española, al comenzar la intentona facciosa, carecía de un Ejército Regular y perfectamente preparado para enfrentarse a los ejércitos italo-alemanes que invadían la tierra donde nunca han podido triunfar los invasores.

No contaba en aquellos tiempos el Gobierno con suficiente cantidad de material bélico para poder aplastar rápidamente el golpe.

Pero, camaradas, en estos momentos en que el Gobierno de Unión Nacional cuenta con una retaguardia leal y disciplinada, en estos momentos en que la mujer

gran Ejército para aplastar de una vez y para siempre el fascismo traidor que invade una parte del suelo de nuestra España Republicana.

española, dando un ejemplo de heroísmo, se incorpora a la industria y de esta manera asegura la posibilidad de fabricar todo el material de guerra que las circunstancias exigen.

Pero no es sólo la retaguardia; cuenta el Gobierno también con un Ejército capaz de superarse y enfrentarse victoriosamente con el enemigo. Y es en estas condiciones que se formula esta pregunta.

Considero que es el cabo el punto fundamental donde se apoya toda la disciplina. ¿Por qué? Porque es el hombre que se encuentra más ligado a ese aparato compuesto por los soldados de su escuadra.

Es el cabo el hombre que con su ejemplo de disciplina debe mantener la autoridad; es él que debe ser el oriente en todos los momentos de confusión a los soldados y debe ser el que siempre marche a la cabeza, siempre y en todos lugares.

De las funciones militares del cabo realmente no puedo enumerarlas teóricamente, puesto que no he recibido esa instrucción, pero si diré que en los momentos que se encuentre de guardia tiene sobre sí la responsabilidad de su escuadra, pelotón, compañía, etc., según sea lo encomendado a custodiar. Y debe en ese momento portarse como tal, pensando que de su actitud dependen la vida de sus compañeros y hasta daños mayores, según sea lo que cuide.

Con un cabo que tenga una idea de la responsabilidad que sobre él pesa, habrá un ejército disciplinado y seguro de la victoria.

MANASES ROMERO

20 junio 1938.

SALUDO A LAS BRIGADAS INTERNACIONALES

El Congreso popular «Paz y Libertad», agrupando 4,710 delegados e invitados, representando 1,452 organizaciones de la región parisina, los días 11 y 12 de junio de 1938 en el Circo de Invierno en París, envía su caluroso saludo a las Brigadas Internacionales que combaten en España por la libertad de la República española y del Mundo, heroico símbolo de las resistencias populares frente a la agresión salvaje del fascismo internacional. El Congreso les asegura su indefectible solidaridad y admiración.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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TWO YEARS OF SPANISH POLITICS

Republican Government Stronger Than Ever; All Political and Trade Union Organizations Represented

When the People's Front triumphed in the February 1936 elections a Government was formed comprising the moderate elements of that body. The Republic continued along the path it had begun to follow in 1931. It did all it could to provide for the most urgent needs of the people, to protect small owners and to restrict the excessive exploitation of the big capitalists, which had grown to enormous proportions during the three years of reactionary rule from 1933 to 1936.

These big capitalist interests, industries, trusts and other large enterprises, together with one of the most corrupt aristocracies in the world, decided to take advantage of the ambitions of some wretched generals who had already proved their incapacity in Morocco and two years ago rose up in arms against the Government which had been legally elected by the Spanish people.

The Republican Government soon realized that all the military power was in the hands of its enemies. All it had for defense was an enthusiastic people who supported it wholeheartedly and a few of the military leaders who remained loyal and stayed at their posts. It was under these difficult circumstances that Señor Giral, a Left Republican, took over the reins of power after the resignation of the former Cabinet. He was supported with great enthusiasm by the remaining Republican groups, the Communists and Socialists, as well as by the Nationalist Groups in Catalonia and the Basque country.

Señor Giral's first measure was to arm the people. The few available arms were distributed among the political parties and trade unions, who in turn handed them out to their most reliable supporters. Thus in the last days of July 1936 the finest and most noble representatives of the youth of Spain fell in the fight for democracy. Those who survived after a hundred battles are now the flower of the Spanish People's Army and the men in whom the Republic places its greatest trust.

When the Government gave arms to the people it realized all the risks involved, but Señor Giral declared that there was no

other course open. Either the people must be armed or the Republic would perish.

Ever since July 18th 1936, Spanish politics have centered round the outstanding problem of winning the war. At the beginning the Republican parties, the Socialist and Communist parties, as well as the U. G. T. (General Workers' Union) and the C. N. T. (National Confederation of Labor) all organized their own forces independently. This, coupled with the fact that the forces on which the Government had relied for the execution of its authority were precisely those which had risen against it, weakened it and undermined its authority.

The authority and independence of each particular party and trade union developed to such an extent that there came a moment when it was difficult to distinguish in whose hands lay the real command.

Fortunately for the Republic that period passed. The people began to regard the problem in its proper perspective and saw the necessity of uniting and centralizing authority in order to defend their country which had al-



VIGILANCE SQUAD of the People's Army on duty.
ESCUADRA DE VIGILANCIA

ready felt the tread of Italian and German troops sent to invade it. Confidence in the Government began to return slowly but surely, for experience taught that a strong enemy could only be faced by a strong and efficient people, uni-

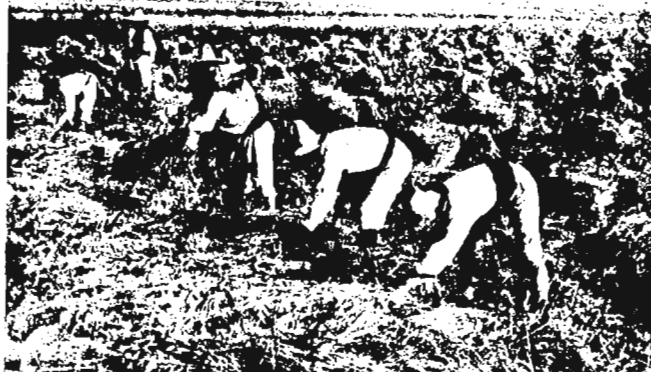
ted in the cause of freedom and independence.

This process of a return of authority to the Government began with the defense of Madrid and in a more noticeable form following the formation of the first Negrin Government in May 1937. This Government consisted of representatives of all parties from Roman Catholic Basque Nationalists to the Communists. It did not however have any representatives of the two trade union organizations.

During the past year the Government's authority has grown from day to day. At the present time all administrative and executive power is in its hands. All the resources of the Army, on land, sea and in the air, as well as industry and economy are under its direct control. Public order is exclusively maintained by forces under its orders and never before in Spain has the number of crimes been so low as it is in the Republic.

Many unjust campaigns have been launched against the Spanish Republic. People, taking advantage of the disorganization of the first few months, a disorganization -- let it be repeated -- due to the fact that the Army and the

(Continued on page 10)



THE PEASANTS are among the foremost defenders of the Republic. Here are some Valencia peasants gathering the rice crop.

LOS CAMPESINOS figuran entre los mejores defensores de la República.
Aquí hay campesinos Valencianos durante la recolección del arroz

THE ACTIVIST PLEDGE

The Activists of our Brigade pledged themselves to a program of work which forms the means through which the military and political work of our Brigade may reach new high levels of combative efficiency.

The program is summarized in the following declaration: As an Activist I voluntarily promise, with the sense of honor and confidence of an anti-fascist combatant, to faithfully carry out the following tasks.

- I. To rapidly assimilate military science.
 - II. To aid the combatants acquire better military technique.
 - III. To care for the arms as my own life.
 - IV. To know all the arms used in combat.
 - V. To be a champion of unity, a worthy representative of the Government of National Union.
 - VI. To work without rest to increase the political knowledge of the combatants, using as the foundation the 13 Points of the Government of National Union.
 - VII. To struggle without rest against the pessimists and provocateurs.
 - VIII. Not to be satisfied as long as a single fighter remains illiterate.
 - IX. To have as my slogan, to be the strongest in the attack and the firmest in defense.
 - X. Not to rest as long as there remains a soldier who is not an Activist.
- I promise to be a model soldier and dedicate my arms, my life and my anti-fascist honor to the independence of Spain.

EL ACTIVISTA EN NUESTRO EJÉRCITO

Por F. B. OSORIO TAFALL

Comisario General del Ejército de Tierra

El activista no puede ser otra cosa que un combatiente en quien el afán de superarse en el cumplimiento de su deber y alcanza proporciones máximas. Es decir, que el activista será en todo y para todo el modelo en el cumplimiento de las órdenes, cuidado del material, adiestramiento de las fuerzas, mejoramiento cultural, etc. Ha de servir a sus compañeros de ejemplo para demostrar lo que se puede conseguir cuando al servicio de la causa antifascista se entrega uno con la plenitud de todo su ser.

En este sentido, el activista ha de ser el colaborador más entusiasta y eficaz de los Comisarios y los jefes, y contribuirá a despertar en la respectiva unidad un vivo y fuerte movimiento de emulación en virtud del cual se pueden obtener resultados sorprendentes.

Hay que evitar, sin embargo, y por todos los medios, que el activista abandone sus *crucies justos* y que, al amparo de él, se pueda crear dentro de las unidades combatientes una casta o clase, privilegiada en cierto modo, que llegue a engendrar todo lo contrario de la solidaridad: la desunión, el autogonismo o el disgusto. De nuevo, es preciso insistir en lo que queda diciendo: el activista ha de ser el promotor y el desarrollador del espíritu de unidad que alienta a todo nuestro pueblo y a todos nuestros soldados.

Finalmente, ha de tenerse siempre en cuenta la formación y composición de nuestro Ejército y los motivos y sentimientos que le han llevado a combatir en la manera que lo está haciendo. Con esto se quiere decir que no puede existir el activista de un partido, ha de ser siempre y en todo momento

activista del Frente Popular y de la política del Gobierno de Unión Nacional. En una palabra, propagandistas y estrictos cumplidores de los fines de la guerra, ejemplos de sacrificio, modelos de austeridad y abnegación. Los activistas de esta clase tienen una labor de capital importancia que realizar en nuestro ejército y a ella se entregarán bajo las orientaciones directas de los Comisarios de las Unidades, de los cuales han de ser firmes, constantes e inteligentes colaboradores.



BRIGADE youth Committee
EL COMITÉ de la Juventud de la Brigada

CONTRATA DE COMPETICION PRESENTADA POR LA XV BRIGADA a las demás Brigadas de la 35 División

Plan de actividades a realizar hasta el día 1 de agosto 1938, celebrado este día un Congreso de examen o competición de las diversas actividades:

1. Llegar a esta fecha sin ningún analfabeto dentro de las Brigadas, con la ayuda directa del mayor número de Activistas.
2. Organizar el mayor número de lectores y comentadores dentro de las Unidades.
3. Crear el mayor número de clases de la lengua española para internacionales con mayor número de alumnos. Comprobar a base de los internacionales que informen en español.
4. Conocer y manejar el mayor número de armas automáticas, por mayor cantidad de Activistas.
5. Competición de Tiro a puntuación, con fusil, fusil ametrallador y ametralladora, y realizarlo un mayor número de Activistas.
6. Competición entre Transmisiones y Señales, con toda clase de aparatos de comunicación.
7. Competición y trabajos de fortificación, alambradas, etc.
8. Competición en ejercicios sanitarios; curas de heridos, etc.
9. Exposición de croquis y panorámicas de un determinado punto, realizados por los Observadores.
10. Exposición de trabajos especiales realizados por la armería.
11. Desarrollar la mayor actividad en educación militar, cultural y política, fuera de las horas de instrucción señaladas.
12. Exposición de periódicos Murales en mayor cantidad y calidad y con mayor colaboración.
13. Desarrollar una mayor cantidad de actividades artísticas; como coros, grupos de declamación, teatro, danza, etc.
14. Competición de coros de

Brigada y grupos teatrales, de declamación y danza.

15. Organizar el mayor número de grupos gimnásticos y deportivos dentro de la Brigada.

16. Competición de fútbol y otras manifestaciones deportivas entre las Brigadas.

17. Como prueba de las buenas relaciones que existen entre los componentes de nuestras Brigadas, llegar en la fecha del Congreso a que cada Activista tenga un hermano de diferente país.

18. Desarrollar el mejor trabajo de Captación de nuevos Activistas bajo la consigna, un nuevo adepto por cada activista presente.

19. Organizar de la mejor manera el movimiento Activista.

20. Crear mayor número de grupos Activistas dentro de la Oficialidad.

Por el Batallón 57, John Peet. — Por el Batallón 58, Morris Boláslein. — Por el Batallón 60, Antonio Sanclis. — Por Transmisiones, Antonio Miguel. — Por el Batallón 59, Antonio Palleja. — Por el Comisariado, Valentín Mullor.

En la próxima nota aclararemos estos puntos y así mismo llamaremos a organizarlos y comprobarlos.

TELEGRAMA

Camaradas André Marty y Luigi Gallo, Comisario Inspector de las Brigadas Internacionales. — Barcelona.

Comisario Jefe 129 Brigada Internacional: En nombre Jefes, Comisarios, Oficiales, Clases y Soldados 129 Brigada Internacional, agradecemos calurosos saludos, felicitaciones hermanos zona catalana y en ustedes saludamos a los misms con el mismo entusiasmo, disciplina y unidad con que las Brigadas Internacionales defendieron Madrid. Nosotros defendemos la región levantina sin ceder un palmo de terreno al invasor. En alto siempre la bandera de la solidaridad internacional al lado de los hermanos españoles sabremos primero resistir y después vencer.

TYPHOID - POEM (Its poisonous)

Ode to the Fly

The fly, the fly,
oh me, oh my,
it gets in my hair,
it sits on my chair,
In spite of all «Flies»
it gets in Your...
and then in my soup,
oh my, what a scoop!
It is on terms
with all sorts of germs:
Dysentery
— oh madre mia —
Typhoid Malaria
— good bye, Sanitaria.
When left in the open
it's ill disposed,
and therefore, amigo,
Your fly — keep it closed
BANK

BRIGADE ACTIVISTS CHALLENGE OTHER BRIGADES OF DIVISION

The Activists of the XV Brigade have issued a challenge to the Activists of the other Brigades of the 35th Division to decide which is the best Brigade in fulfilling a comprehensive program of activities for improving the work and enriching the life of the Brigades.

The challenge is a twenty point program which began with the Activists Congress, July 3, and is to end August 1st. John Peet, of the 57th Battalion; Morris Goldstein, of the 58th Battalion; M. Pallejá, of the 59th Battalion; Antonio Sánchez, of the 60th Battalion; Francisco Miquel, of Transmissions; and Valentín Mullor, of the Commissariat, signed the challenge in the name of the Brigade.

The terms of the competition, are as follows.

1. That, with the aid of the Activists, there shall be no illiterates in the Brigades by this date (August 1st.).
2. To organize the greatest number of groups of press readers and commentators within the Units.
3. Create the greatest number of classes in the Spanish language for Internationals, with the greatest number of students. The basis for judging the Internationals shall be through reporting in Spanish.
4. To know and to manipulate the maximum number of automatic arms by the greatest number of Activists.
5. Shooting contest, to be judged by points, using the rifle, light and heavy machine guns, to have the greatest number of Activists participate in it.
6. Transmission and Signaling competition with all types of instruments of communication.

7. Competition in building fortifications, barbed wire entanglements, etc.

8. Competition in Sanitation exercises; dressing of wounded, etc.

9. Drawings of sketch maps and panoramas of determined points to be made by the Observers.

10. Exhibition of special work accomplished by the Armory.

11. To develop the maximum activity in military, cultural and political education outside the regular hours of instruction.

12. Wall newspaper exhibition, checking for the greatest number, best quality and greatest number of contributions.

13. Development of a greater number of cultural activities — choruses, recitation groups, theater, dance, etc..

14. Competition between Brigade Choruses, theatricals, recitation and dance.

15. To organize the greatest number of gymnastic and sports groups in the Brigade.

16. Competitions in football and other sports between the Brigades.

17. As proof of the good relations existing among the members of our Brigades to see that each Activist has a brother of a different country by the time of the next Congress of Activists, August 1st.

18. To develop the best work in drawing in new Activists on the basis of the slogan: "A New Activist for Every Activist Today".

19. To organize the Activist movement in the best fashion.

20. To create a greater number of Activist groups among the officers.



Activists Congress in June
Congreso de Activistas en Junio

JURAMENTO DEL ACTIVISTA

Los Activistas de nuestra Brigada se han comprometido a un programa que forma la manera en que el trabajo militar y político de nuestra Brigada pueda alcanzar nuevos niveles de combatividades eficaces.

El programa es el siguiente:

COMO ACTIVISTA, ME COMPROMETO VOLUNTARIAMENTE CON EL HONOR Y ORGULLO DE UN COMBATIENTE ANTIFASCISTA, A CUMPLIR FIELMENTE LOS SIGUIENTES PUNTOS:

- I. Asimilar con rapidez la ciencia militar.
- II. Ayudar a los demás combatientes a mejorar su técnica de lucha.
- III. Cuidar las armas como mi propia vida.
- IV. Conocer todas las armas de combate.
- V. Ser un campeón de Unidad, digno representante del Gobierno de UNION NACIONAL.
- VI. Trabajar sin descanso para aumentar la capacidad política de los combatientes teniendo como base los 13 puntos del Gobierno de Unión Nacional.
- VII. Luchar sin descanso contra los derrotistas y provocadores.
- VIII. No estar satisfecho en tanto haya un luchador analfabeto.
- IX. Tener como consigna, ser el más fuerte en el ataque y el más firme en la resistencia.
- X. No descansar en tanto quede un soldado que no sea ACTIVISTA.

PROMETO SER UN SOLDADO MODELO Y DEDICAR MIS ARMAS, MI VIDA Y MI HONOR ANTIFASCISTA, A LA INDEPENDENCIA DE ESPAÑA.

THE ACTIVIST IN OUR ARMY

by B. F. OSORIO TAFALL

Commissar-General of the People's Army

The Activist cannot be other than a combatant in whose eagerness to excel in the accomplishment of his duties reaches the maximum proportions. That is, the Activist will be in all and for all the model in the fulfillment of orders, care of material, instruction of troops, cultural betterment, etc. He must be to his comrades an example demonstrating what can be attained when one gives himself unselfishly to the antifascist cause.

With this in view, the Activist must be the most enthusiastic and effective collaborator of the Commissars and Commanders. In this way he will contribute in awakening within his respective unit a live and powerful competitive spirit from which, it will be found, surprising results will be obtained.

What must be by all means avoided is for the Activist to side-track this mission, or to favor him, which would be to create within the combatant's unit a caste or class, privileged in a way, which will breed every-

thing to the contrary of solidarity: disunion, antagonism or disgust. It is necessary to insist again: *the Activist must be the propeller and the developer of that strong spirit of unity that animates all of our people and all of our soldiers.*

Finally, the formation and composition of our Army must always be born in mind, as well as the motives and sentiments which has made it fight in the manner it is doing. What this means is that there cannot exist an activist of Party. He must be always and in every way the Activist of the Popular Front and adhere to the policy of the Government of National Union. In a word, he is the propagandist and strict fulfiller of the ends of the war, example of sacrifice, model of austerity and abnegation. The Activist has a job of utmost importance to realize in our Army, to devote himself to the direct orientations of the Commissars of his unit, one who must be a firm, constant and intelligent collaborator.



LINCOLN WASHINGTON machine crew
GRUPO DE ametralladores del Batallón Lincoln Washington

NIGHT SENTRY

by Harold HORBURY

All was quiet. The front line of Spanish Democracy was having one of those inactive periods that happen in every campaign, be it large or small.

The night was dark. Here and there the silhouetted figures of the sentries showed up grim and ready. Silhouetted figures, silent and attentive, ever-ready and ever-watchful. It was as though a great stage scene was in the making as though the silent and ghostlike figures had been out from some propaganda poster and pasted in the dark trench.

Over on the left, with uncanny intermittency a light machine-gun cut sharply into the silent night. Occasionally a rifle shot broke the deathlike stillness.

At his post, close in the bay of the trench, his eyes searching into barren no-man's-land, Jack Smith shivered. He pulled the deep collar of his Spanish cape closer about his ears. The keen frost nipped his fingers and cut sharply about his face. He was praying if praying was of any use to him, for the remaining hour of his guard duty to speed swiftly by. It was too bad; even a little action on one side or the other would end this deathly monotony.

His thoughts left him. He was suddenly all attention. Someone was out in the desolated area of no-man's-land. Jack had his rifle at the ready.

It was then that the world went mad. The roars of bursting shells, the rat-tat-tat of machine-guns, the explosion of trench mortars.

* * *

The rasping and half-screamed issue of orders brought Julio back to earth with a shock. For a moment he had been back on his beloved land, tending his vines.

Quickly he picked up his rifle, as quickly he attempted to show interest in his guard duty. It was impossible. Every limb in his body was a pain; every pain a half-born scream. Continual duty through rain and sleet, hail and snow had begun to make every movement an effort.

The grey clad officer passed by.

Julio was tired of it all. Tired of the discipline, tired of the unending succession of kicks and blows. The fire of a terrible vengeance was in his heart.

How it all began he did not know. His first intimation was the arrival in his village of strange-looking foreigners. They were all dressed in a field grey. Later he found them in every village and every town. Domineering and swaggering, with thick bull-necks and close-cropped heads. By night in every cafe, drinking freely and filling all the vicinity around with a superior laughter. By day brutal and savage in their treatment. He had spent a full two months under them. His frail body still carried the marks and bruises of their vicious kicks and blows. He did not know it, but a vast change was taking place in his whole outlook on life. Daily he was growing more and more revolutionary. It was slowly being forced upon him; no longer could he take what was given him without pitting his puny strength against their sadistic treatment. He was worked up to the pitch where it is touch and go, where weak-minded fall and the strong place their feet apart and resist. His strength of mind refused to allow him to bend the knee; his pride of race refused to give ground. Come what may, he had decided against them.

The night had a bright moon. Julio knew the dangers and consequences of the task ahead of him. Lack of food had made him reckless. He would attempt anything in his present state of mind.

He looked along the deserted trench. Nothing but the blurred shapes of sentries. The moon was very bright. He could wait awhile.

During the early days of the war he had received news of his son's bravery. His Jose, who had always had strange notions about who should



LINCOLN-WASHINGTON MACHINE GUN NEST, Company One, during the fighting at Cedrilla ("Polo Norte").

Nido de ametralladoras de la primera compañía del batallón Lincoln-Washington durante las batallas de Cedrilla ("Polo Norte")

sit in Madrid and lay down laws; who was now a captain, and whose name was uttered with respect by those sympathetic to the reds. Perhaps sooner or later he may be asked to shoot down his son. The harsh-voiced officer had said they were fighting for God and Spain and blood ties could never be considered. It seemed all wrong to him. How could he fight for his country under foreigners?

Heavy crushing footsteps brought him to himself again. The grey clad officer was again making his rounds. Julio shivered with the cold. How he detested it all. Every day a continuous nightmare, every night a tortuous memory of a previous day. The footfalls grew nearer.

Suddenly the man he hated was upon him. Julio answered in faltering words. With a threat the officer moved down the trench.

Machine-guns pitted away on the right. Julio made himself comfortable in the bottom of the trench. The moon was still bright.

He nodded and dozed. If only the moon would pale down. For weeks he had waited for a night as quiet as this. He simply had to make it. Maybe he would never get the same chance again.

He stood up in the trench. Everything was deathlike. For days past he had looked forward to this. At times when the enormity of his action came home to him, he was left breathless with the thought of what may happen to him should he be caught in the act.

Julio looked up at the moon. Two seconds more and it would pass into a dark belt of clouds.

His testing time had at long last arrived. A moment's hesitation and he heaved his frail body over the parapet. He was shivering in every limb. With nimble and devilish cunning he found his way through the barbed wire.

No-man's-land. Shell holes, bomb craters and the remains of what had once been olive trees. He had a hundred meters of ground to cover.

Into the stillness came the staccato report of a machine-gun. The fire came perilously close to Julio. He felt like screaming. Had they spotted him? He blundered on in a half-walk, half-run. It was then that he stumbled into a huge bomb crater. His rifle clattered against a stone. The world went mad.

* * *

Jack Smith yelled to his comrades; it was unnecessary; they were already at their posts. Machine-guns and rifles were rattling away. A full ten minutes it lasted. It ended as suddenly as it had begun.

The sentries in the trench were doubled.

Jack glued his eyes into the nothingness of no-man's-land. He did not hear his company commander's approach.

Captain Jose Garcia tapped the shoulder of the sentry. He spoke in Spanish.

"Did you hear that?"

Jack Smith was startled.

"What's that?" A moment later, "No, not a thing."

"There's somebody out there coming this way. Hold your fire."

The sentry dropped down the rifle from his shoulder.

Out in the black void came the sound of faltering footsteps. Slowly they drew nearer and nearer until it was possible to distinguish the dark form of a man.

Captain Garcia had his revolver in his hand.

With something between a sob and a groan the slim figure of a man fell over the parapet. The stranger fell into the arms of the officer. One frail and weak, the other muscular and strong.

A revolver clattered to the ground with a metallic ring.

Recognition was mutual.

"Padre, Padre." The words of Garcia were husky and throaty. He was beside himself with joy.

"Jose, Jose."

The uniting of father and son left the sentry a mute onlooker. He understood the drama which had unfolded itself so suddenly before his eyes. With a lump in his throat, he turned his eyes into the blackness of the night. His relief should be here anytime now.



ALSO DURING the fighting at Cedrilla
Una de las batallas de Cedrilla.

JULY 4TH - JULY 19TH

By JOSEPH NORTH



AT THE training base

EN LA base de instrucción

THE TURN OF THE TIDE

Arouse all the soldiers, the dawn will soon break,
For none can sleep while the guns are awake.
Forward to victory, rise with the morning,
Today we the enemy's stronghold are storming.

The men are tired and need a rest
But still they fight with determined zest.
In yonder trenches the enemy stand
So forward soldiers and free the land.

So let your voices rise to the sky,
All soldiers and workers will take up the cry,
• Viva República! Long live Spain •,
And throw aside the binding chain.

The soil is stained and sodden red,
Red with the blood of the wounds that bled
That freedom might live and never die,
Upon this soil where their bodies lie.

The soldiers are ready and now it is light,
The guns they do roar and into the fight,
Over the land and through the vines,
Advancing and breaking the enemy lines.

As the victors be honored when Spain you have won;
So clip on your bayonet and up with your gun
And fight like good comrades all side by side,
And let your advance be the turn of the tide.

ANTON MILES

During the July fourth celebration of the Lincoln Washington battalion I thought: it is difficult to gauge the height of a mountain when you are climbing it; it is a hard job to estimate the value of an historical action when you are going through it. So it is with the war in Spain. The value of the International Brigades here will be better estimated by the fighters themselves when the war is over. Today they are too deep in the thick of the powder fumes to see the historical perspectives clearly. The work of the internationals here will be one of the highwater marks of history. It ranks with the work of the volunteers in the American war for Independence in 1776; with the American Civil War in 1861.

Today we are celebrating the second anniversary of the Spanish war for liberty. The parallel between the two wars is startling. Earl Browder, one of the leading figures in American working-class history has quoted Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln in his studies of the American tradition. He told how Jefferson, for example, observed in a report on negotiations with Spain March 18, 1792: "In the course of the war (the American Revolution) we were joined by France as an ally, and by Spain and Holland as associates; having a common enemy each sought that common enemy where they could find him."

The common enemy of all democracies today is fascism; but at the moment leaders of all democracies today are not as clear-minded as Jefferson was back in 1792. The people of the democracies however will carry the lantern to show them the way; and their sons fighting in Spain will light the wick.

The international support of American democracy did not end with the revolutionary war; the Civil War found the bravest progressives of all the world on the side of the North to free the slaves and to help American retain its unity.

Lincoln responded to the letters of encouragement and support sent him by the First International and by the British workers organizations. He praised the heroism of the British workers movement which supported the North at the price of suffering and starvation, a heroism which, he declared "has not been surpassed in any age or in any country".

The volunteers of Spain today are carrying on in the finest traditions of Washington, Lincoln, Tom Paine and Jefferson, giants who founded American democracy. Just as our own country gloried in and was encouraged by the aid of internationals so Spain today welcomes the support of the true lovers of democracy who have come here to help win victory. These allies of America played a great part in history: the allies of republican Spain who came here to fight against fascism play a similar great part in contemporary history.

André Marty, the great leader of the Black Sea revolt, and one of the giant figures of the twentieth century, father of the International Brigades in Spain, put it well when he said to the American Volunteers:

"Noble sons of the great American people, noble sons of Jefferson and Lincoln, noble fighters for liberty. I salute you in the name of all our volunteers. You now enter the struggle of the volunteers for liberty. One hundred and fifty years ago, Frenchmen went to America to fight for the cause of liberty in your country. Now you too, have come here to fight for peace and for the liberty of the peoples of the whole world. You are truly the disciples of Jefferson and Lincoln. Marty speaks in the name all the progressives of mankind. He says most clearly what millions throughout the world think. This should not be overlooked on this second anniversary of the Spanish war. The work of the International Brigades in Spain shall be written on the imperishable pages of history.



ENGINEERS working on fortifications on the Ebro
INGENIEROS construyendo fortificaciones a lo largo del Ebro



BRIGADE BAND
LA BANDA DE LA BRIGADA



MAC-PAP DUGOUT

Un refugio en la línea de fuego

THE TREK THAT LED TO SPAIN

This anniversary wouldn't seem complete to me without some mention of the «Vancouver Stiffs» who are out fighting side by side with the rest of the Internationals against fascism.

It isn't strange when one looks back that, for its size, Vancouver is probably the best represented city in the I. B.

The few hundred from Vancouver are comrades who for ten years fought the reactionary British Columbia Government. I can remember the struggles of the single unemployed and the prosecutor reading aloud the charge of vagrancy. «Joseph Kelly, you are hereby charged in the city of Vancouver with being a loose, idle and disorderly person and with no visible means of support. Are you guilty or not?» And then the drawling voice of Judge Manson as he passed the sentence: «Two months».

Then in 1935 the Canadian unemployed staged the historic «On to Ottawa» trek against the pro-fascist Bennett Government.

The organization and demonstrations leading up to this historic trek were done in Vancouver.

It was logical that this trek should finally lead us to Spain. It was the same fight. When the call for volunteers sounded in Vancouver, hundreds of the Vancouver stiffs immediately sent for passports and others were bumming and begging five dollars so that they too could send for their passports to join the fight. Some of our best loved unemployed leaders: José Armitage, Paddy O'Neil, Wold, Charlie Sands, have

died so that fascism should not reign in Spain. The rest of the Vancouver stiffs don't intend to let them down. When the final battle is being fought we will find the Vancouver stiffs right in the thick of the fight and they will come through with colors flying.

J. McGrandle



GRANDFATHER AND GRANDSON

by Bernard Wiebe

If William Lyon Mackenzie should suddenly have awakened from the dead upon the occasion of our fiesta this July 1st, he would have been proud. Proud of the Canadian sons who have made and go on making glorious history in the fight for liberty and against fascism. For William Lyon was exiled, hunted and jailed just because he fought for the rights of the common people many years ago. So was Papineau.

The grandson of William Lyon is today Prime Minister of Canada. He has not taken the same vigorous stand for democracy as his grandfather. The people of Canada are behind us. Their battle is the job of forcing the Canadian Prime Minister to quit dealing with the fascists, to lift the shameful embargo against the valiant Spanish people. They can be sure that we will go on doing our part.

BATTALION OBSERVER
OBSERVADOR

IN MEMORY OF RAMON GONZALEZ

When the Spanish comrades joined our battalion (Mac-Paps), in August last year and thus really impressed its international character on it and also its character as part of the Spanish People's Army, there was one Spanish comrade especially who stood out and commanded attention, for his self-confident bearing and his qualities of leadership. This was comrade Ramón González, quick and active without being nervous, always good humored and always a center of friendship between the Canadian and Spanish comrades.

Fuentes and then Teruel, and comrade González in command. The comrades in his company felt that he was a match for anything despite the cold, the lice, the artillery. What confidence he had that everyone would contribute to the building of our battalion.

But he was killed at Teruel and it was every kind of a loss, personal and military. It is in his spirit that all of us, International and Spanish comrades, have continued to work to build up our battalion.

Member of Mac-Paps



MAC-PAP YOUTH

Frank Rogers, War Co

by Johnni

Just outside of Belchite towards Fuentes de Todos, a shell landed in the Estado Mayor of the Lincoln, killing commander Rees and Battalion Commissar Parker. One of the corpse fell against Frank Rogers — a piece of shrapnel wounded him in the leg.

It's not a milk-and-water baby whom we have for a political commissar. It's a veteran of our war who led the Lincoln Battalion (in those difficult April days) from which he came to join us.

Back in the States, he was everything from a steel union organizer to a football player. He felt the heavy hand of coal barons in the mine center of Pittsburgh where he spent some time in jail for organizing activities. So determined was he that he got together a «Kangaroo Court» in jail to form the fore-runner union of the CIO and this «court» right then and there elected an executive committee!

CANUCK BATTALION and civilian youngsters stage joint fiesta
EL BATALLÓN CANADIENSE y niños españoles celebran una fiesta



COMMISSAR FRANK ROGERS addressing soldiers and Popular Front delegates during the April 14th festival on the Ebro Front
EL COMISARIO FRANK ROGERS dirigiéndose a los soldados y delegados del Frente Popular durante el festival del 14 de abril en el frente del Ebro



JUVENUD del batallón Mac-Pap

Comissar of the Mac-Paps

leGrandle

His revolutionary activity did not dull his interests in sports. He became a leader of the Labor Sports Union to help give the amateur sportsman a real chance. This took him to Germany in 1931 for the Labor Olympics — known as the World Spartakiade. The fascist minded police (even during that time) put their foot down and threw him into a German cooler. The Soviet Union then proved a saver and he went there, where solidarity gives without saying.

Just like many of us who recognized that the fascist rebellion was an assault on decent life everywhere, he came to Spain to put to use his energy, intelligence and leadership in driving reaction out of Spain. We can count on our Commissar Rogers to use his physical prowess and organizing ability, to play an important part in the coming victory of the Spanish Republic.



SOLDIER of the Mac-Paps mending his trousers. Picture taken just before the recent fascist drive began at Belchite
REPARANDO sus pantalones. Esta foto fué sacada poco antes de empezar la última ofensiva fascista

EN MEMORIA DE RAMÓN GONZÁLEZ

Pronunciar el nombre de Ramón González equivale a citar uno de los verdaderos héroes de la lucha española por la libertad: uno de esos héroes salidos de las entrañas del pueblo, que ha sabido luchar con fe y entusiasmo, e incluso ha sabido morir defendiendo sus ideales en una de las más históricas batallas de la guerra española por la libertad y la independencia, en la batalla de Teruel.

El teniente Ramón González (esta fué su graduación), era comandante de la tercera Compañía del Batallón Mackenzie-Papineau. Supo ganarse las simpatías de todos sus soldados, a quienes trataba como hermanos; siempre alegre y sonriente, pero muy serio en su trabajo. Pertenecía a nuestro Batallón desde su fundación y su comportamiento en el mismo fué insuperable.

Ramón González murió, pero su recuerdo vive y vivirá siempre entre nosotros.

J. P.



HILL AND MAHON, both of the Mac-Paps
DOS CAMARADAS del batallón Mac-Pap

1 JULIO 1937 - 38

Siempre han formado parte del Batallón Mackenzie Papineau un buen número de españoles, que en todas las batallas, en todas las jornadas gloriosas, lucharon codo a codo al lado de nuestros queridos

camaradas canadienses contra los impostores de la opresión, el crimen y la esclavitud. Para los canadienses, hoy se cumple el 1.º Aniversario de la fundación del mismo.

Al recordar actuaciones del Batallón, donde todos pusimos siempre el máximo de energías y sacrificios, no dejaré de citar el gran valor de que dieron prueba en todo momento los canadienses, y los dignos compañeros suyos que fueron siempre los españoles: ni unos ni otros se abandonaron jamás en la lucha, y siempre juntos hicieron frente con heroísmo al enemigo, atacando unas veces, resistiendo otras, cumpliendo las órdenes que recibían de sus superiores.

Es obligado, al pedirlos a todos un recuerdo a los caídos, hablar de dos camaradas, de dos grandes e incomparables camaradas a quienes nunca olvidaremos: no puedo contenerme de emoción al escribir los nombres del capitán Makela y teniente González, canadiense el uno, español el otro, los dos supieron dar sus vidas en defensa de las libertades del pueblo español, que son al mismo tiempo las del proletariado del mundo entero.

J. P.



CANADIAN HUT on the banks of the river Ebro
BOHIO en la orilla del Ebro

EL TRABAJO DE LA MUJER EN LA RETAGUARDIA

Una vez más nos lo han demostrado las incansables muchachas del «Casal Trifón Medrano», de Barcelona, cuya organización, afecta a la J. S. U., cuenta con un número de unos quince mil afiliados, camaradas que luchan sin descanso en la retaguardia para ayudar en todo lo posible a los heroicos combatientes de distintas Unidades, como nos lo han demostrado, tanto militar como políticamente, y con más tesón todavía por mantener en contacto mutuo la Unidad del Frente con la Retaguardia.

El Primero de Julio ha sido una fecha memorable con el 6.º Batallón, por conmemorar con un festival el 1.º Aniversario de la fundación del mismo, que equivale a un año de lucha en defensa de las libertades del pueblo español hoy, y de las del mundo entero el día de mañana. Este Batallón ha destacado siempre, en cuantas actuaciones se le han ordenado, desde

el Primero de Julio de 1937, fecha en que se fundó, y a partir de la cual ha venido librando batallas de envergadura, tales como las de Aragón, especialmente Teruel, y muchas otras.

En la conmemoración de este día tuvimos entre nuestros huéspedes una simpática Delegación femenina, representativa de la J. S. U. de Barcelona (Casal Trifón Medrano). El objeto de esta visita fué el de rendirnos un homenaje con la entrega al 6.º Batallón de un banderín fruto de sus esfuerzos materiales y económicos. La confección de este banderín les ha costado, a estas camaradas, muchos desvelos y trabajos, fuera de sus faenas diarias, ya que todas ellas trabajan para la Guerra.

Nosotros sabremos corresponder y les prometemos colocar este banderín en sitios de honor y defenderlo con tesón cuantas veces sea necesario.

ANTONIO MARIS



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BARCELONA

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BARCELONA

JULY 19 — 1938

CHURCHES FUNCTION IN LOYAL ZONE

The Government has often, on different occasions, declared its intention of encouraging the free exercise of religious belief, providing the churches do not interfere in the functioning of the State. It not only encourages religious freedom, but protects the clergy engaged in teaching various religious doctrines.

Two of the orders issued by the Ministry of Defense are of interest; one releases priests from military service because it is against their principles; another permits them to administer spiritual aid to such soldiers at the front as ask for it. These decrees have pleased the Protestants no less than the Catholics, and the former have shown their goodwill towards the Government from the beginning of the Military rising. The Spanish Evangelical Church, which was legalized while Senor Albornoz was Minister of Justice has worked effectively for the last 18 years, and practices freely throughout Loyal territory. This is true also of the smaller Baptist Church.

The Permanent Commission of the Evangelical Church normally functions in Barcelona. In the absence of the President, who is ill in Switzerland, the Rev. D. Daniel Mir Barri, the Secretary, gave us the following data:

• During the whole of the first year of the war our churches were

closed, not by Government decree, but because it was considered prudent in view of the prevailing excitement. In Catalonia, however, they remained open.

• Worship has not been interrupted. We have held services regularly as before the war. In fact, we have enjoyed more freedom, because we had been subjected to some persecution.

• Our clergy have not been molested, and have all remained in Spain except for a few, whom circumstances called abroad. Our churches have been respected. At present there are 25 open in Catalonia, ten of which are in Barcelona. There are also nine in Madrid, three in Valencia and one in Murcia and Cartagena. These are all churches which were open before the war.

• About thirty pastors are living in Loyal territory just like other citizens. The rebels on the other hand have persecuted our fellow clergymen who remained in towns taken by the rebels. Although we have done no propaganda, the members of our churches have increased by about two or three hundred.

• The Evangelical Church continues as before the War. It is not molested at all, least of all by the Government, which gives it every consideration in religious matters.



"MINUTO" Brigade Motorcyclist.
EL CAMARADA "MINUTO" motociclista de la Brigada

THE CULTURAL WORK OF THE REPUBLIC

In democratic countries the army is a school which corrects deficiencies in education which are unavoidable in remote sections of the country. In Spain, however, the army was a brutalising institution, impregnated with unreasonable discipline. At the present time, however, this army is not only a school of citizenship and of patriotism but also an agency of national education, which is making an end of illiteracy in Spain. This is being accomplished as the result of the courage and sacrifice

tics, etc. These are subjects which may develop a desire to learn and, once the fight is ended, orientate these liberated people to other forms of activity and advanced study.

Educational work of wide scope has been carried on in the army. Battalion libraries, as well as travelling libraries, have been established. Also soldiers' club-rooms, where courses and lectures are given continually. There are educational corners; radio, cinema, and theatre performances, which ac-



CLASS being conducted by the cultural Militia
CLASE conducida por la Milicia de cultura

of the Culture Militia, who by increasingly intensive and efficient work have taught more than 75 thousand men to read and write in little more than a year and a half. Under the former vicious social system these men were deprived of the means to learn. Now they have come from the farthest corners of Spain in order to defend an idea which includes the recovery of their rights. When the struggle ends, they better than any one will know why and for what they fought.

The Culture Militia, famous and unequalled throughout the world establishes its schools in barracks and in trenches, in places constantly hit by the bullets, guns, and bombs of the enemy. The Ministry of Education has edited a "Soldier's Primer", an excellent pedagogical work which makes it possible to teach adults to read and write rapidly and easily. Special methods must be applied in teaching adults. The methods used for children are never successful in adult education. Some of the groups which the Culture Militia first taught were 95 % illiterate. This high percentage of illiteracy has decreased rapidly, and in some groups illiteracy has disappeared entirely.

Instruction in reading and writing were not enough, and was soon augmented by lectures on various educational topics: the history of Spain, geography, natural history, agriculture, mathema-

quaint the soldiers with the important classics of the Spanish and world theatre.

The following outline indicates what has been the work of the Culture Militia up to the present time:

Schools established	2,047
Soldiers taught to read and write	75,178
Libraries	809
Travelling library containing 4,000 volumes	
Individual classes	362,381
Collective classes	531,385
Lectures and discussions	20,077
Soldiers' club-rooms	117
The Culture Militia has also carried out other work:	
Articles published in the press	7,055
Cinema performances at the fronts	508
Wallpapers	4,223
Radio talks	200
Performances in Spanish	51

Intensive radio propaganda has been carried on in enemy territory by means of radio talks, of which 2,576 have been given.

This then is the campaign which has been carried out in order to liquidate illiteracy, the stain of the country, which was countenanced and fomented by reactionary forces in old Spain.

PARA QUE EL CORREO LLEGUE Y LLEGUE PRONTO

- 1.º Escribir claramente la dirección del destinatario.
- 2.º No cerrar el sobre.
- 3.º No poner sello de franqueo en las cartas dirigidas al extranjero.
- 4.º Franquear todas las cartas dirigidas para España.
- 5.º Emplear sobres sin señales exteriores de las Brigadas.
- 6.º Evitar de hablar en las cartas de cuestiones militares.

PARA RECIBIR LOS PAQUETES

- 1.º No poner en los paquetes frutas frescas, botellas con líquidos u otras mercancías frágiles que puedan estropearse.
- 2.º No poner nunca en un mismo paquete víveres con cartas, libros, papel blanco, etc., estos últimos debiendo pasar por la censura.
- 3.º No poner más de 200 gramos de tabaco en los paquetes, estando prohibido por la aduana el envío en mayor cantidad de tabaco extranjero.
- 4.º Enviar los paquetes en un embalaje fuerte.
- 5.º Poner la dirección en los paquetes exacta y clara. Poner igualmente en el exterior una lista con el contenido del paquete.
- 6.º Enviar los paquetes que vienen de Francia por mediación del Comité Internacional de Ayuda a España, 1, Cité Paradis, PARIS, que los enviará directamente a las Brigadas.

Lt.-Col. COPIC BIDS FAREWELL Ten.-Cor. COPIC SE DESPIDE

In bidding farewell to the XV International Brigade, I'm reminded of the heroic struggles and abnegation of its fighting combatants at Jarama, Brunete, Quinto, Belchite, Teruel, Segura de los Baños, as well as its tenacious resistance during the fascist offensive in February and March of this year.

The heroism of its fighters has made the XV Brigade one of the best in the Popular Army. I hope that in the future, the Brigade will be the powerful arm to the Army and to the Republic, as it has been. I ask of all the officials, commissars, and combatants of the Brigade to unite under the new commanders comrade Valledor, to prepare for the decisive blow to fascism.

Salud y Victoria.

V. Copic

Despidiéndome de la XV Brigada Internacional, me acuerdo de nuevo de las heroicas luchas y de la abnegación de sus destacados combatientes en Jarama, Brunete, Quinto, Belchite, Teruel, Segura de los Baños; igualmente como su resistencia tenaz en la ofensiva fascista de Febrero-Marzo de este año.

La XV Brigada por el heroísmo de sus combatientes es una de las mejores del Ejército Popular. Espero que en el porvenir, la Brigada se quedará como siempre, como un apoyo poderoso del Ejército y del Gobierno de la República. Pido a todos los Oficiales, Comisarios y combatientes de la Brigada unirse todos bajo el mando del nuevo Jefe comandante Valledor, para preparar un golpe decisivo al fascismo.

Salud y Victoria.
V. Copic



STAFF MEETING at the front. Comrade Copic can be seen sitting second from left

REUNIÓN DEL ESTADO MAYOR en el frente del Ebro. El camarada Copic es el que está sentado en el segundo lugar del lado izquierdo



NEW BRIGADE COMMANDER,
Major Valledor

EL NUEVO COMANDANTE de
nuestra brigada, el Mayor Valledor

MAJ. VALLEDOR GREET BRIGADE COMBATANTS

In taking command of this excellent Brigade I extend, through the medium of the order of the day, a fraternal greeting, full of antifascism, to its valiant fighters: the commanders, commissars, officials, classes and soldiers who, under the command of the respected Lt.-Col. Copic, knew how to resist the most merciless attacks of the enemy and in addition knew how to counter-attack gaining victory in as many times as it faced the invading hordes sent in by Hitler and Mussolini.

I, brave fighters of the XV Brigade, after having fought with my troops in Asturias until it fell, could never imagine that I would be given the honor someday of commanding an International Brigade (a Brigade of heroes) especially one like this which is full of honors crowned with victories.

Fighters of the XV Brigade, I know how great is the gap that is left with the absence of Lt.-Col. Copic. I know how great was his military knowledge. I shall attempt therefore, to put into practice all the knowledge I have acquired on the battle-fields of Asturias and promise to do all humanly possible to fill this gap and be able to lead you to new and great victories.

SALUDOS DE NUESTRO NUEVO COMANDANTE

Saludo a los Heroicos combatientes de la XV Brigada. — Al hacerme cargo del mando de esta tan gloriosa Brigada, dirijo por medio de la orden de este día un fraternal saludo, lleno de antifascismo a sus heroicos combatientes, Jefes, Comisarios, Oficiales, clases y soldados los que bajo el mando del querido y antiguo Jefe, Teniente-Coronel COPIC, supieron resistir los más duros ataques de nuestro enemigo y en múltiples contraataques alcanzaron infinidad de victorias, cuantas veces se enfrentaron con las hordas invasoras de España enviadas por Hitler y Mussolini.

Yo, heroicos combatientes de la XV Brigada, no podía imaginarme cuando después de ver aniquiladas totalmente las heroicas fuerzas que a mis órdenes combatieron en Asturias, que podría llegar algún día a mandar una Brigada Internacional (Una Brigada de Héroes), y más una Brigada como ésta, llena de honores y coronada de victorias.

Combatientes de la XV Brigada: sé lo grande que es el hueco que con su marcha deja el Teniente Coronel Copic, y sé lo grande que eran sus conocimientos militares, procuraré, pues, poner en práctica todos mis conocimientos adquiridos en los campos de batalla, y prometo hacer lo humanamente imposible para tapar este hueco y poder conducir a nuevas y grandes victorias.

Espero, pues, de vosotros, Jefes, Comisarios, Oficiales, Clases y soldados, pongáis a mi disposición todos cuantos conocimientos habéis adquirido de vuestro antiguo y querido Jefe, para que todos unidos demos el golpe definitivo y librems a España de invasores.

Vuestro Jefe Mayor
JOSE ANTONIO VALLEDOR

I ask you, commanders, commissars, officials, classes and soldiers, to put at my disposition all of the knowledge and skill you have learned with your old and admired leader, so that all of us, united can strike the final blow and liberate Spain of its invaders.

Your Commander, Major
José Antonio Valledor

A FEW REMINDERS ABOUT YOUR MAIL

1. Write or print clearly all addresses.
2. Don't seal the envelope.
3. Do not place stamps on letters intended for outside of Spain.
4. Put stamps on all letters intended within Spain.
5. Do not use envelopes to be sent outside of Spain with any outside markings.
6. Avoid speaking of military questions in your letters.

INSTRUCT YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES BACK HOME

1. Not to make packages of fresh fruits, liquid bottles, or fragile merchandise which may be easily damaged or broken.
2. Not to include in packages: letters, books, or blank paper: the latter must pass censor.
3. Not to include more than 200 grams of tobacco in the packages, since the sending of tobacco from outside of Spain in greater quantities is prohibited by the Customhouse.
4. To only send parcels well-packed.
5. To print clearly the address of the receiver. On the outside of the package a list be made of the contents.
6. To send packages that go through France through the medium of the "Comité International de Ayuda a España, 1, Cité Paradis, PARIS", which are sent directly to the Brigades.

THERE'S A CONNECTION FASCISTS CAN'T CUT

by SIDNEY KURTZ

The kids are playing a newkind of game in Albacete. It's called «Hanging Franco by the Neck». They have a small stuffed effigy of «el caudillo» with a swastika on his fat belly, swinging with a rope around his neck, while they spit in his eye or hurl insults at him.

Madrid's pretty much the same. Still plenty of Bacalao and high morale. Chicote's still as crowded as ever.

I met lot of the Internationals in Alicante and in Valencia. Some of them had come in from the front for repairs, others were on «permiso». They sure would like to be with the XVth, but the fact that they aren't doesn't seem to have effected their fighting spirit much.

Eddie Lending and Conlon Nancarrow and a couple of other Americans are with the crack anti-aircraft battery in Spain. At least that's what Ed says. They shot down sixty five fascist planes, so maybe there's some truth in what he says.

In between his studies of German, Italian and Russian, Conlon Nancarrow is busy on a new invention. He won't confess what it's all about, but I suspect it's something that can make genuine coffee out of Malta.

The John Brown's finally got into action and seem to be giving a good account of themselves from what I hear.

The rest of the Americans, including Abe Harris, Gus Heisler, Tom Mann, Gordon, and a raft

of others are in various artillery and anti-tank outfits.

Valencia's changed a lot in these last few months. Wait until you drive through again. You'll notice it.

Valencia's beginning to go through what Madrid went through almost two years ago. Everything's tightened up considerably. The Government has things well in hand. So well, in fact, it's a little embarrassing sometimes. Imagine the police knocking on the door of your hotel room at two o'clock in the morning and asking to see your papers. Where's all this traditional politeness of the Spanish I've heard so much about?

And the food. If the armaments were as plentiful as the food then it wouldn't be long before the Barcelona-Valencia highway was open again.

Speaking with some of the Americans I learned that they have really begun to appreciate the fighting qualities of the Spanish people.

One of them said to me: «You know, I've been here for sixteen months, but I'm just beginning to find out how these Spanish kids can fight. You got to fight with them to know what I mean. Jesus, I never saw anything like it. I saw them kids — yeah, just kids — stand up under aerial and artillery bombardments that was so bad that the earth seemed to be on fire. And when the smoke cleared up and the Italians thought they'd march in with flags flying, there was those kids still there.

And boy did they give it to the fascists. I saw that happen three times. Them kids got no fear. I tell you they're afraid of absolutely nothing. This people's not going to lose. Not with fighters like these.»

And another one said:

«Sure. As soon as we get the arms we'll give them a shellacking they'll never forget.»

Then the first one said:

«And that's why we gotta stay here, fighting with them. Negrin knew what he was talking about when he said «resist! resist! resist!» He knows that it's only a question of time before we get enough arms to start our own offensive. And listen! When you get up to Barcelona you tell them guys in the Fifteenth that when we break through them cardboard soldiers we'll join up with them — as shock troops.»

These were internationals speaking. They were speaking in the name of not only the other internationals they're fighting with, but in the name of those heroic Spanish «kids» who are going through hell and fire and holding the fascists on the Levante front.

«Valencia como Madrid». That's what you see plastered all over the streets. «Levante en pie». And the Levante is on foot! You ought to see those fortification workers rolling out of Valencia up towards Sagunto and further north. You ought to see the people in Valencia today. «The fascists will never break through, they say.

«Valencia como Madrid». ¡Valencia is Madrid!

So if you're wondering what's happening in the other part of Spain, rest assured that the fight's going on with all the strength we can muster. And each day of resistance makes us stronger and stronger. If you're wondering what the effect of the cutting of the road has had in the other Spain, rest assured that it's only caused a redoubling of the efforts to win the war.

The people on the other side of the fascist lines want you to know one thing: Spain's not divided! There's bond that connects the two zones that can never be cut by the fascists, no matter what armaments they pour into Spain. That's the bond of unity. The bond that unites central Spain with Catalonia; the bond that says «We shall pass».



TWO YEARS OF SPANISH POLITICS

(Continued from page 1)

Civil Guard rose up against the Government which had entrusted them with the task of maintaining order in the country, have accused Spain of being a country without leaders and in a continuous



SPANISH KIDS having a good time at a Mac-Pap festival.

NIÑOS ESPAÑOLES divirtiéndose al festival del batallón Mac-Pap

state of anarchy. They have exploited these assertions in order to put forward the theory that Spain could only be governed by a dictator.

When one examines the truth, one finds that all these accusations are completely unfounded. The parties of the extreme left such as the Communists have, from the very beginning, given their wholehearted support to the Government and even the Anarcho-Syndicalists, who at the beginning declared themselves opposed to any form of Government other than that on a trade union basis, have now not only given their tacit support but have even entered the Government of National Union which was formed in April of this year.

At the present time all political parties and trade union organizations are represented in the Government under the leadership of Dr. Negrin. It was following the formation of this Government, which expresses the will of the whole nation, that the members of the Cabinet considered it opportune to summarize the aims of the Spanish Republic in carrying on the war until final victory is achieved.

This gave rise to the famous Thirteen Points, which have been described as a charter of liberty for an oppressed people. The out-

standing and most urgent task to be fulfilled is that of freeing Spain from foreign invasion. Once this is assured a plebiscite it to be held which will allow the Spanish people to choose the form of Government which they prefer. Complete tolerance of worship is guaranteed. Regional autonomy shall be respected. Education shall be accessible to all who wish it. The old semi-feudal agricultural conditions will be liquidated and the peasant shall have the right to keep the fruits of his labor. The People's Army shall be ever on guard to defend the interests of the Spanish people. Internationally Spain reaffirms her support of the League of Nations and collective security and demands a place in the family of nations. Perhaps the most generous and striking feature of all is the declaration that when the war is over and arms laid aside there shall be no talk of reprisals against those who either out of ignorance or misfortune fought on the side of the rebels. This point was further emphasized by Dr. Negrin in his recent speech from Madrid when he said «We are anxious for peace in order to incorporate in the urgent task of reconstructing and aggrandizing Spain all those compatriots who sincerely wish to fulfill the duties which we must perform. Is there anybody who thinks that after this bloody struggle the Spaniards are simply to be classified as conquerors and

conquered? Is there anybody who thinks that our land is so rich in values that in its reconstruction we can dispense with the services of workers, whatever their trade or profession, merely on account of the label of the side they fought for? Is there anybody who thinks that this fratricidal struggle is to be continued after peace is attained?... The maximum aspiration of statesmen should be that, before many years have passed, the names of the victims who have fallen on both sides of the struggle should figure side by side on the roll of honor of each town and village, as martyrs for a cause which should give us a new and great Fatherland».



UN GRUPO de ametralladores de Jarama

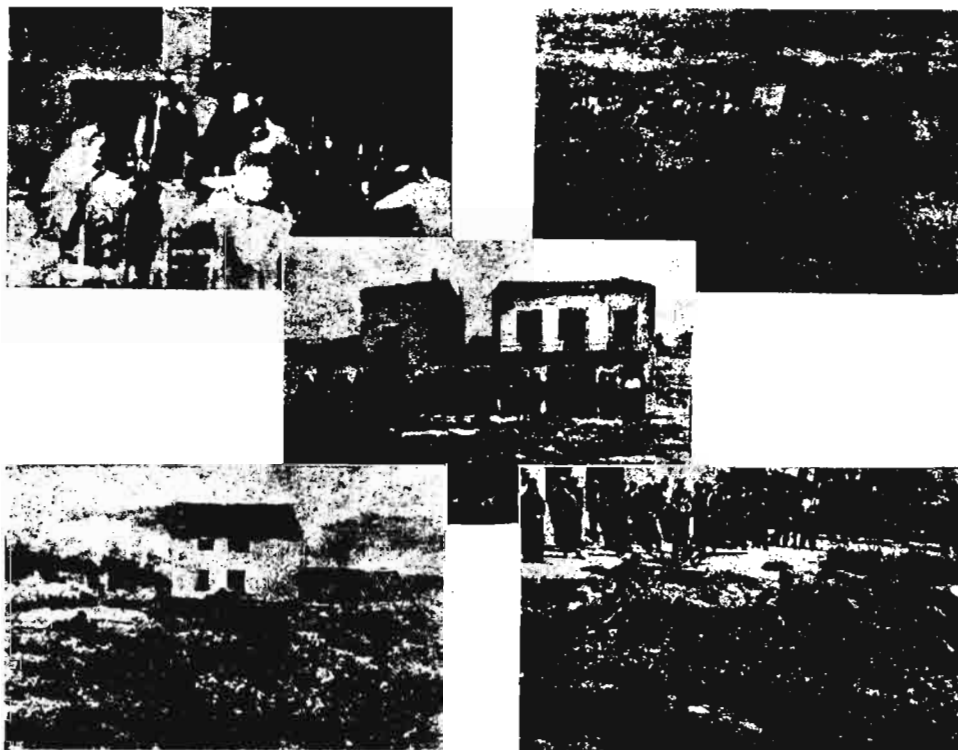
Tasks of a Cabo

Clarence SCHULER

The cabo in the performance of his tasks plays a very important part in the functioning of a military machine. The squad, being the basic unit, must function properly in every way, if the peloton, section, company, etc., are in turn to function properly.

This is why each squad must be well trained in the knowledge of their arms, how to use and take care of them, must know how to manoeuvre on the offensive and on the defensive, understanding their role in all formations with respect to the peloton, section, company, etc., as a whole, must know how to advance, formations of combat against enemy infantry, tanks, cavalry, avion, must know how to scout, patrol, etc. What is true of the above is also equally true in regard to fortifications, guards, and all other military problems.

In all these things, each cabo as the responsible for his group, should be a teacher to the other comrades, and an example and discipline in battle and out. In this way the cabo will best be fulfilling his duties by helping to make of every squad a more efficient and effective group, maintaining that unity and co-operation which will serve as a basis for stronger sections, stronger companies, stronger battalions, and a stronger army—that we must ever work together to mold and make more powerful in order to defeat fascism.



SCENES of what goes on at the Cabo School. In the upper left corner is shown a class in session inside the school. To the right is shown the students during session on the open field. In the center, the Cabos are seen in formation. In the two lower pictures can be seen how seriously these very important leaders of the People's Army are conducting their maneuvers.

ESCENAS que pasan en la Escuela de Cabos. En la foto de la izquierda de la parte superior se ve una clase en sesión dentro de la escuela. A la derecha se ve a los mismos estudiantes estudiando en el campo. En el centro están en formación. En las fotos de abajo estos cabos maniobran en el campo con toda seriedad, y comprenden que de la eficacia de su trabajo depende la victoria.

ESCUELA DE CABOS

Obligaciones del Cabo

Ante todo el cabo debe respetar a sus soldados, para que éstos, a su vez, lo respeten; ser el primero en la disciplina y en obedecer las órdenes de sus superiores, para ejemplo de sus soldados.

Cuidará de que los soldados de su escuadra observen la disciplina que hace falta en una maniobra, en prácticas y durante la clase de teórica, castigando al que le desobedece y dando parte a su sargento. Dará las novedades que ocurran en su Escuadra al sargento.

Cuidará de que por la mañana, al toque de diana, se levanten y se asean sus soldados; asimismo cuidará de que recojan y plieguen sus mantas, barran y limpien el sitio donde duermen y tengan en orden sus mochillas o macutos, para en cualquier momento estar dispuestos de formar en cinco minutos con equipo, para cuando haya necesidad de marchar de un sitio a otro.

Tendrá el control de su escuadra por medio del nombre de cada uno de sus hombres, número de fusil y demás munición y armamento que tenga. Velará por el bienestar de su Escuadra y cualquier queja o reclamación que tengan hará que se la formulen a él, para a su vez transmitirla al sargento y así sucesivamente por conducto regular que llegue al sitio que va formulada.

Cuidará de que todos los días

limpien su fusil y lo conserven en buen estado, así como demás armamento y herramientas que tenga la escuadra, pues cada escuadra debe llevar un pico y una pala grande o pico y cuatro palas pequeñas.

Cuando haya revista de armas revistará él primero las de sus hombres, y si alguno la tuviese sucia se la hará limpiar hasta que esté en condiciones, pues debe procurar en todo momento que su escuadra sea siempre modelo y la primera en disciplina y demás obligaciones del soldado, pues así demostrará sus buenas aptitudes para dicho cargo y el deseo de prepararse y poder alcanzar puesto más elevado para bien de la causa y en beneficio de la victoria.

Durante el ataque irá señalando a sus soldados los sitios que tienen que ocupar y mantendrá en todo momento el control de su escuadra, como asimismo la moral y disciplina, condición indispensable para el éxito de una operación.

Cuando esté de guardia cuidará de que los relevos se efectúen a su debido tiempo y en las condiciones que debe efectuarse. Cuidará que los centinelas no se duerman y estará siempre atento a cualquier novedad que ocurra, para resolverla si está en él hacerlo o en caso necesario dar parte inmediatamente al sargento de guardia; advertirá en todo momento al centinela

sus obligaciones para que no dejen de cumplirlas; pondrá mucha atención en las órdenes que se le den o en las misiones que se le encomienden para ejecutarlas lo más rápidamente posible, pues en la rapidez de efectuar estas órdenes depende muchas veces el éxito de cualquier operación.

Dará las órdenes a sus soldados con términos claros y concisos y

procurará que asimismo las ejecuten con toda rapidez.

Estas son las obligaciones generales de un cabo que debe observar con toda rapidez, ateniéndose y observando también las instrucciones particulares que se le den.

20 junio de 1938.

DEMEDIO PLANELLAS
FERRANDIZ
del Lincoln - Washington

What are the Duties of a Cabo?

James LARDNER

The function of a Cabo is to see that his men execute quickly and efficiently the order of this superior officers.

To this end he must have, first, an extensive knowledge of military technique; secondly, the respect of his squad; third, a sense of discipline, and fourth, a willingness to work and study hard.

Without mastering the performance of every task, whether it be cleaning a Dekariev, digging a fox-hole or cutting barbed wire, the Cabo cannot take every precaution for his men's safety nor utilize fully their fighting strength.

Without the respect of his men he cannot lead them either at the front or in reserve. Without a foundation of discipline he cannot rely on the swift fulfilment of every order when seconds count under fire. Without hard work he cannot attain any of the qualifications of a good cabo.

The cabo must also prepare himself to take over the command of his peloton in the event that his sergeant should be hit. He must similarly train the men in his squad so that they may be ready to full his shoes.

In all this the cabo does the work of an activist. But to merit the name he must also do more. He must instil in his men an understanding of the cause for which they are fighting. He must work for better relations between Internationals and Spaniards, between Catalan and Castilian, between soldier and civilian. He should make himself a guardian of the crops and other property of the civil population.

The cabo must maintain the fighting spirit of his men at a high level and bolster their courage in action by reminding them of what a Fascist victory would mean to Spain and to the world.

LETTERS from HOME

British Seaman Tells Of Visits to Rebel Ports

(Ed. Note: The following is part of a letter sent by a union seaman to a friend of his in the Brigade. His account of visits to the rebel ports, we feel, are illuminating.)

Dear Bill.

I secured a job on the....., which ship I am on at present. She is on the trade to rebel ports, mainly Cadiz and Seville.

As to the crew's attitude towards the Spanish Government and their views on the question of trading to rebel ports, I can say right now that every single member of the crew is sympathetic towards the Republic.

We left London and went directly to Gibraltar, where we only stopped for a day, discharging cargo and then went across the Bay to Algeiras.



Speciman of Italy's zoo

I was allowed to go ashore in Algeiras. I only had time for a two hour walk around the town in the afternoon as we were only stopping there for one day, sailing again in the evening. However, it was sufficient to give me a general impression of what is taking place there. Outstanding amongst all is the display of 'anti bolshie' propaganda posters, depicting the so-called Bolshevik invasion of Spain, in the form of a massive creature with big lashes (whips) held above their heads and women and children cringing at their feet begging for mercy. Then the usual pictures with knives, etc.

In Algeiras there is also a big army barracks and there appears to be a considerable amount of building construction going around the barracks building. I witnessed a march through the streets to the barracks by a Spanish rebel company. They were apparently recruits and were in two sections. One section consisted of kids whose ages ranged between 14 and 18 years. The other section, ages ranging between 18 and 30. One or two officers marching alongside

continually shouting-out marching orders to keep them all in step. One, two; left, right, etc. One thing was very noticeable, there was no enthusiasm amongst any of the marchers.

There apparently is a regular traffic between this port and the Moroccan coast. Continued stream of Moors going back and forth.

A batch of Moors arrived with about 55 horses while we were there.

In Seville, unfortunately, again we only had a short stay, arrived in the morning and sailed the same evening. I had a load of antifascist literature with me and intended 'doing my stuff' in Seville and Cadiz. At first we were informed that we were stopping in Seville overnight, so I went ashore in the afternoon for a look around, and in general to get my bearings, so to speak, picking out the places best suited for distributing the literature, such as houses in working class streets, hospitals and barracks, also cafes. After a good look around I came back on board the ship around the tea hour intending to go ashore in the evening with the Lit. Imagine my disappointment when we were informed at 6 p. m. that orders had arrived for the ship to sail at 7 p. m. that night. This put all my plans sky high. There was no restricting on us going ashore in Seville, the usual guards were on the gangway, but they didn't trouble us.

When we arrived in Cadiz, we found an entirely different atmosphere prevailing. The guards on the gangway kept a strict watch on us and nobody was allowed ashore. We lay there for three days and two nights. I could well see the reason for their strictness in ensuring that no one be allowed ashore. The port was chock full of German destroyers, and while we were lying there an Italian 'Hospital' ship arrived. She is a big two funneled liner. Her name is the S.S. Granaisca, painted from stem to stern with red crosses, also on her funnels. I am informed that there is no restriction on the crews of German and Italian vessels getting ashore.

GEORGE



LOS CAMARADAS de Sanidad de la Brigada, primero a la izquierda es el Dr. Bernstein; centro, Dr. Straus (Jefe), y Al Golberg, comisario

SCHOOL OF THE SANIDAD

Probably no department of our army has its importance minimised so much as the Sanidad. Of its school where camilleros and sanitarios are trained, little appears to be known except by those comrades who have been trained by it or who are directly in contact with it.

Somewhere and somehow comrades have to be trained for the very important work of attending to our wounded since error or lack of knowledge in the preliminary treatment of bullet wounds can often cause a comrade to lose a limb, if not his life. In undertaking such work speed and efficiency are essential and several weeks of steady training are needed to produce a comrade who will perform his duties at the front and under very difficult circumstances without error.

Nearly all the comrades at the Sanidad school have been sent there because of promising work as a stretcher bearer or because they have a desire to work in this department of the army. If I paint a too pleasant picture of the Sanidad school the Jefatura might be overwhelmed with applicants during the next few days but I have known comrades who, though

they entered the school unwillingly at first, have so settled down that none of them wish to leave it. Of course, this they will have to do as vacancies appear in the different sections of the battalion or Brigade Sanidades.

Up in the morning at half-past-six the school sets the good example by being washed and cleaned before breakfast. Then to work. Training in first-aid work is not too severe. If it were so the new comrades would find it very difficult to learn. Some, you must remember, never unrolled a bandage before and to try to teach about six or seven positions to which different types of bandaging would apply could only create confusion for the students.

Everyone starts at scratch. There are no aristocrats of the art in the Sanidad school. Although I had been working as a company sanitario I took my place with the others in learning to work with a stretcher. I was on the point of objecting at first, especially as I have had nearly ten years experience in this work, but very quickly saw that my attitude was wrong. No school can be effectively run if it caters to all the different stages of development of the comrades.

Under conditions of war, first-aid work can be very difficult and it is not possible to give anyone a complete knowledge of the entire field of sanitary and first-aid work. Learning the technical names of arteries and bones is left out since it is not important. Knowing something of the structure of the human body is, and this has to be included in the work. Apart from the treatment of war wounds, sanitation and hygiene are most important and from digging the correct type of latrine to seeing that water is supplied to the soldiers is all part of their training.

Morning and afternoon we find them practising, working with a stretcher, and bandaging, developing towards the degree of efficiency they need to possess.

The school of the Sanidad is united with the soldiers of the People's Army for the victory of the Spanish Republic.



BREAKFAST at 15th Brigade operations department
DESAYUNO en el departamento de operaciones de la brigada

ANTON MILES

APLASTAR AL ENEMIGO INVASOR



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II • No. 26

Barcelona, July 26 - 1938

OUT WITH THE INVADERS OF SPAIN: TO THE ATTACK

The call to attack has come. Our Popular Army is now ready to cease its period of resistance and is armed to march into battle for the reconquest of Spain.

From the moment the fascist offensive in Aragon was nailed in its tracks by the splendid resistance put up by the soldiers of the People's Army, Catalonia prepared night and day for an opportunity to strike back. That opportunity has now arrived!

The whole Army in Catalonia has been organized and trained with a single immediate aim: to win back the lost territory, reopen the road to Madrid, and smash the fascist invaders of Spain.

Our 15th Brigade has spent the past three months in reserve positions, getting ready for this counter-offensive. A period of intensive training was carried on. Every branch of the service of the Brigade received its necessary instructions and training. Our Brigade is now better trained — never has it reached to such heights of military attainment. — It is much more efficiently equipped than heretofore. The military and political leadership of the Brigade combines a brilliant combination of men of courage and experiences on many fronts and in many battles. The command took advantage of every day of the Brigade's training period to allow the fullest development of capacity in every comrade, whether it be in the infantry or auxiliary service.

The fascists are driving hard on the Levante front. With staunch courage our brave soldiers under the sturdy command of General Miaja are resisting with such unexpected tenacity, in the face of overwhelming odds, that Hitler and Mussolini's desperate desire for a rapid victory has been upset long ago.

The divisions of Italian troops, fighting along the entire Levante front are battering themselves against a united determined wall of unparalleled resistance by Spaniards who will never yield to the tyranny of fascism.



SIARDANTE

Soldiers, officers, commissars! You are once again called to the attack against the murderous enemies of Spain and the whole civilized world.

Our brothers on the Levante front need our aid. We shall pay tribute to their heroic resistance with a drive against the enemy which will make it feel the full weight of our hate for fascism.

Our turn has come! Every soldier to his post! Every officer on duty! Every commissar on his toes!

Let not one fail in the accomplishment of his duty!

Let not a step falter!

United all!

Let this advance be the freedom of Catalonia and Aragon of the despicable enemy! Let it also force the liberation of the fascist pressure on our brave Army of Levante!

FORWARD, COMRADES' TO THE VICTORY WHICH IS OURS!

NUESTRA RESISTENCIA NOS HA PREPARADO PARA ESTE CONTRAATAQUE

¡UNIDOS ATAQUEMOS! - ¡UNIDOS VENCEREMOS!

¡FUERA LOS INVASORES DE ESPAÑA!

La llamada al ataque ha llegado. Nuestro Ejército Popular ya está preparado para terminar el período de resistencia y está armado para marchar a la batalla por la reconquista de España.

Por el momento la ofensiva fascista en Aragón ha sido atajada en sus propios ataques por la espléndida resistencia puesta por los soldados del Ejército de la República. Cataluña se ha preparado día y noche para tener una oportunidad de devolver el golpe a nuestros enemigos! La oportunidad ha llegado!

Todo el ejército en Cataluña ha sido organizado y entrenado con un solo e inmediato fin: recobrar todo el territorio perdido, abrir de nuevo el camino a Madrid y aplastar el fascismo invasor en España.

Nuestra 15 Brigada ha pasado los tres meses últimos en posiciones de reserva, encontrándose preparada para esta contraofensiva. Un período de entrenamiento intensivo se ha llevado a cabo. Cada sección del servicio de la Brigada ha recibido sus instrucciones y entrenamientos necesarios. Nuestra Brigada está ahora mejor preparada. Nunca había llegado a tan alto grado militar y está mucho más eficientemente equipada que nunca. Los líderes militares y políticos constituyen una brillante combinación de hombres de valor experimentados en muchos frentes y en muchas batallas. El mando se aprovechó cada día del período de entrenamiento de la Brigada para permitir el desarrollo de la capacidad de cada camarada, lo mismo en la infantería como en los servicios auxiliares.

Los fascistas atacan fuertemente en el frente de Levante. Pero

nuestros valerosos soldados, bajo el magnífico mando del General Miaja, resisten con una sorprendente tenacidad a pesar del abundante material bélico que Hitler y Mussolini, en su desesperado deseo de alcanzar una rápida victoria, han acumulado, habiendo fracasado rotundamente.

Las Divisiones italianas que luchan en todo el frente de Levante, encuentran una muralla de resistencia opuesta por los españoles, los cuales jamás se rendirán a la tiranía fascista.

¡Soldados, Comisarios, Oficiales! Otra vez estáis llamados al ataque contra los enemigos asesinos de España y de todo el mundo civilizado!

Nuestros hermanos del frente de Levante necesitan nuestra ayuda. Nosotros debemos corresponder a su resistencia heroica atacando al enemigo y hacerle sentir al fascismo todo el peso de nuestro odio.

¡Nuestra hora ha llegado! ¡Cada soldado en su puesto! ¡Cada Oficial a cumplir con su deber! ¡Cada Comisario en pie!

¡Que nadie falte en el cumplimiento de su deber!

¡Que no falte un solo paso!

¡Todos unidos!

¡Que este avance sea la liberación de Cataluña y Aragón del odiado enemigo! ¡Que sea también la fuerza contrarrestadora de la presión fascista sobre nuestro heroico Ejército de Levante!

¡ADELANTE CAMARADAS! ¡HACIA LA VICTORIA QUE ES NUESTRA!

»Este Ejército que, con su tesón, con su espíritu de sacrificio, con su terrible aprendizaje está formando y ha formado el escudo necesario para que entretanto la verdad y la justicia se abran paso en el mundo, forja con sus puños y caliente con su sangre el arquetipo de una nación libre».

(Del último discurso del Presidente de la República)



CABOS AND SERGEANTS

A good Sergeant or Cabo means a good section and good section means a good battalion!

Remember: Every order received should be executed without discussion.

That ever order given should indicate clearly the tasks to be performed.

The Cabos and Sergeants are responsible for the actions of their unit during battle.

Abandonment of position without the order first coming from superiors is inexcusable.

Nuestro ataque animará a todos los pueblos, libres y esclavizados, a los pueblos de Alemania e Italia. Con nuestras balas tocamos al enemigo común de toda la Humanidad. LA VICTORIA SOBRE EL FASCISMO EN ESPAÑA, SERÁ LA VICTORIA SOBRE EL FASCISMO MUNDIAL.

The object of aviation attack is to demoralize the opponent. When it arrives discipline and coolness must be displayed! The effectiveness of avions can be minimized if we defend ourselves passively and actively. Passive defense: **AVOID ALL MOVEMENT.** Active defense: Accurate fire by the **ANTIAVIONISTS.**

La aviación tiene como objeto la desmoralización del adversario! Al presentarse ésta hay que guardar disciplina y sangre fría. La eficacia de la aviación es inconsiderable, si sabemos defendernos pasiva y activamente. La defensa pasiva: **EVITAR TODO MOVIMIENTO.** La defensa activa: certero fuego de los **ANTIAVIONISTAS.**

THE ACTIVIST IN BATTLE

«I promise to be a model soldier and dedicate my arms, my life and my anti-fascist honor to the independence of Spain». With these words the Activist of the 15th Brigade recently dedicated himself to the tasks before him.

For many weeks Activism has stood out as the most important movement ever initiated by the soldiers of the Brigade. The Activist has given all his energies toward the improvement of the military, cultural and political character of his unit. He has been inspired by an intense desire to learn and apply more quickly the methods needed for the annihilation of fascism. He knows that victory for the Republic will mean liberation for the German and Italian people from the tyranny of their oppressors.

The Activist, along with the rest of the soldiers and officers, is going into battle. All the knowledge he has acquired during weeks of anxious preparation will be called into play. Here is where it will be proven how well the Activist can coordinate his past experiences and his newly acquired knowledge for the victory we're driving for.

Do not forget, Comrade Activist, the pledge you took:

«To care for the arms as my own life.

»To be a champion of unity, a worthy representative of the Government of National Union.

»To struggle without rest against the pessimists and provocateurs.

»To have as my slogan: to be the strongest in the attack and the firmest in defense.»

Every Activist has big tasks ahead. The Brigade, the Division, the whole Army will look toward him as example of courage, discipline and fighting enthusiasm. He must throw into action every muscle, every ounce of energy, every bit of intelligence and ability for the blow we are about to deal.

United all, we will mercilessly shatter the forces opposing us!

El activista en batalla

Nuestro odio desapijado al fascismo y nuestro profundo amor al pueblo los dos estímulos de nuestro ataque

«Yo prometo ser un soldado modelo y dedicar mis armas, mi vida y mi honor antifascista, a la independencia de España». Con estas palabras los activistas de la 15 Brigada se comprometieron, ante las tareas que se les presentan.

Por muchas semanas el movimiento de los activistas ha sido lo más importante iniciado por los soldados de la Brigada. El activista está dando todas sus energías al desarrollo del carácter militar, cultural y político de su unidad. Él ha sido inspirado por un intenso deseo de aprender y aplicar más deprisa los métodos necesarios para la aniquilación del fascismo. Él sabe que la victoria para la República significará la liberación para los pueblos alemanes e italianos de la tiranía de sus opresores.

Los activistas conjuntamente con el resto de los soldados y oficiales forman para entrar en combate. Todos los conocimientos que ellos han adquirido durante semanas de ansiosa preparación, serán llevados a la práctica. Aquí es donde será probado lo bien que los activistas podrán coordinar sus pasadas experiencias y los nuevos conocimientos adquiridos para ganar la victoria por la que luchamos.

No te olvides camarada activista, el juramento que tú hicistes:

«Cuidar las armas como mi propia vida.

»Ser un campeón de unidad, digno representante del Gobierno de UNIÓN NACIONAL.

»Luchar sin descanso contra los derrotistas y provocadores.

»Tener como consigna ser el más fuerte en el ataque y el más firme en la resistencia.»

Cada activista tiene un gran compromiso adquirido. La Brigada, la División, todo el Ejército mira en él como un ejemplo de valor, disciplina y de gran entusiasmo luchador. Nosotros debemos poner en acción cada músculo, cada onza de energía, toda nuestra inteligencia y habilidad por el golpe que daremos.

Unidos todos derrotaremos las fuerzas que se nos oponen



Cartel por Antonio Pujol

"LEADERSHIP"

In the old days, when the armies fought in close formation, Senior Officers could lead personally large bodies of men, but now, with open formations, the importance of the junior leader has very greatly increased and the result of the battle, will largely depend on his ability and leadership.

Before appointment as Cabo, a man must show that he is a good soldier, above the average in smartness, efficiency, intelligence, skill at arms and field work. On appointment, he must learn to command others and lead them in battle.

A leader must, first of all, have the confidence of his men and to gain this, he must have confidence in himself. Confidence depends firstly on KNOWLEDGE; the Section Leader must "know his job".

He will prove his knowledge to his men, by his ability to train them quietly and efficiently. He will gain their respect, by his determination. He must be able to make up his mind and having done so, "stick to his decision" and see the thing through. He should keep calm himself. To show doubt and indecision, is a sure way of shaking the confidence of his men. A stout-hearted man will always go on trying and by doing so, will instill his own fighting spirit into his followers.

LOYALTY is another essential to leadership. Unless a leader is himself loyal to his superiors, he cannot, himself, expect loyal support from his subordinates. He must show confidence in his men, for the more men are trusted, the more they can be relied upon. He will increase their confidence in themselves, by assisting them, in every way possible, to become efficient soldiers. By his personal example, a leader can always steady his men in a crisis.

Finally, he must have discipline: he must command the men under him, firmly, but with common sense and fairness. He must give his orders clearly and firmly, and having given an order, must insist on it's being carried out implicitly.

The difficulties facing an N. C. O. are greatest during battle. He is called upon to issue orders to others, with whom, until recently, he encounters terms of equality. His task will not be easy, but each time one of his orders has been carried out properly, it will become less difficult. When the men realise that his orders are final, he will have no difficulty in obtaining their obedience. He should remember that, he will gain their respect, by his fairness and firmness and though he must rely primarily on himself when he gives an order, he does so as a representative of his Commanding Officer.

Capt. GEORGE FLETCHER
57th. Battalion (English).



Tendréis soldados del pueblo, todo el armamento que necesitéis para alcanzar, con vuestro valor y vuestra pericia, Victorias decisivas en la lucha por la libertad de España.

Dr. NEGRIN, Presidente
del Consejo de Ministros

Ojo!

Para aplastar al enemigo, delante de nosotros tenemos nuestras armas, nuestro valor y espíritu antifascista. Para aplastar al enemigo en nuestras filas, agentes de la 5.^a columna, hacen falta ojos abiertos.

CONFIAD EN LA VICTORIA

TAREA de los Comisarios es acrecentar el entusiasmo, robustecer la moral combativa multiplicar el heroísmo, premisas de nuestra segura victoria. En medio tan propicio, el trabajo de agitación y propaganda, tiene necesariamente que ofrecernos en breve plazo frutos magníficos.

Cuando en las unidades decrece el entusiasmo y la moral flaquea, hay que buscar la causa originaria en el deficiente trabajo de los comisarios, los cuales no habrán sabido estar a la altura del honroso puesto que, en nuestra lucha, el Gobierno de la República y el pueblo español les tiene asignado.



EYES AND EARS ATTENTIVE!

To defeat the enemy before us, we have in our hands the weapons necessary, our strength and our antifascist spirit. In order to crush the enemy among us, the 5th Column, we must keep our eyes and ears attentive at all times!



Los soldados de la libertad tienen un solo deseo:

ATACAR Y VENCER!

A good rifleman is not one who fires constantly, but one who fires accurately.

Our resistance has prepared us for the counter-attack

¡CONFIAD EN LA VICTORIA!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 27

Barcelona, July 30 - 1938

CROSSING OF EBRO BRILLIANT FEAT

The successful crossing of the Ebro by our People's Army along a number of points starting from the mouth of the Ebro at Amposta (South of Tortosa) to Mequinenza in Aragon has filled the professional militarists of Europe and America with stupefaction. This feat was accomplished in spite of the numerous and strongly entrenched fascist forces facing us and the disadvantage of having hundreds of fascist bombers impeding our activities.

Once again the Spanish people by their determination to prevent the fascists' desire to rule Spain, have created another of those "miracles" of the war by risking the swift tide of the Ebro and shattering the calculations of the world militarists who doubted the possibility of this maneuver.

This offensive reveals the audacity and tranquillity of

our command, the solidity and discipline of the troops, and the firmness of a Government of National Union which can only see victory for the cause of Spanish democracy.

We have crossed the Ebro at its widest and deepest points, defying their ariel and artillery bombardments and we did it rapidly, orderly, and without confusion. As soon as the river was crossed we reunited and continued the advance.

However, this is only the first stage of greater battles just ahead. The enemy is not yet defeated. He was stunned and set back for the moment. But as he recuperates, fierce counter-attacks will in all certainty begin. It is then when all our efforts will be demanded. It is one thing to attack and another to know how to resist and to hold what has already been gained. We shall expect these counter-attacks, but we shall know how to meet them. We shall use our experiences of Brunete, Teruel and Aragon with defiance of the enemy, order, unity of fire and action, and coolness of mind.

Every position which is occupied whether for the moment or not, must be fortified! It will protect you and your comrades from enemy bullets, from artillery and avian bombardment. **DIG-IN AT ALL TIMES.**

ATTACK, FORTIFY, RESIST! That is the order of the day. Already the fascist invaders have been forced to release their pressure on the brave people of Levante. The anti-fascist people of Spain and of all nations are watching and cheering you on to victory. Every antifascist heart here and in the world over is beating with you.

Catalonia wants to be free of fascism. It wants to drive away the invaders from her borders, from Aragon and from the whole of Spain.

Defeating the beasts of fascism on the battle-fields of Spain means defeating the common enemy of all civilization.

Every soldier firm in the attack!

Every officer clear and sharp in his commands!

Every commissar ready to raise the morale and fighting ability of his men!

Courage, endurance, and supreme antifascism is needed during every minute in our encounters with the enemy!

LONG LIVE THE SPANISH REPUBLIC!

LONG LIVE THE PEOPLE'S ARMY!

LONG LIVE THE 15th INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE

LONG LIVE THE VICTORY OF WORLD ANTIFASCISM!



¡LA CAUSA DE LA RAZÓN VENCERÁ!

The enemy, as he has done throughout the entire war, is attacking from the air, but even here he has failed. For the Republican troops are now seasoned warriors and air attacks, no matter how intense they may be, no longer have the effect of demoralization which they once had.

AGAINST AVIONS, DIG YOURSELVES WELL INTO THE GROUND: FIRE AGAINST THEM ONLY BY ORGANIZED GROUPS. NEVER RUN. AVOID ALL UNNECESSARY MOVEMENT.



EL CRUCE DEL EBRO MAGNÍFICA VICTORIA DE NUESTRO EJÉRCITO

El cruce del Ebro llevado a cabo por nuestro Ejército Popular a lo largo de varios puntos, empezando desde la embocadura del Ebro (Sur de Tortosa) hasta Mequinenza, en Aragón, estuvo lleno de sorpresas para el militarismo profesional de Europa y América. Esta hazaña fué realizada a pesar de las fuerzas numerosas de los fascistas que, bien atrincherados, nos oponían una fuerte resistencia con el bombardeo de centenares de aviones que impedía en cierto modo nuestra actividad.

Otra vez ha hecho posible el pueblo español, puesto en condiciones por la voluntad inquebrantable de no dejar nunca que los fascistas invasores se apropien de nuestra España, uno de los llamados «mitagros» de la guerra al arriesgarse a cruzar el río precisamente cuando estaba éste con la plenitud de sus aguas profundas y terribles. Al mismo tiempo han dado al traste una vez más con los cálculos de los militares expertos del mundo entero, que dudaban de la posibilidad de poder cruzar el río y llevar a cabo esta maniobra grandiosa.

Esta ofensiva ha demostrado la audacia y la serenidad de nuestros mandos y soldados; demuestra la disciplina firme y sólida de la tropa y la fortaleza del Gobierno de la Unión Nacional que tiene como objetivo supremo la victoria de la causa de la democracia española.

Hemos cruzado el Ebro por los puntos más profundos y más anchos, desafiando a las fuerzas enemigas del aire y de la artillería. Le hemos atravesado con rapidez, con una disciplina admirable y sin ninguna confusión. Tan pronto como nos encontramos en las otras orillas, nos hemos reunido y de esta manera hemos proseguido el avance.

Pero esto es solo la primera etapa de las batallas que nos esperan. El enemigo no está aun aplastado, ni mucho menos. Fué aturdido por un momento y se desorganizó por la sorpresa. Pero al reponerse, contraatacará. Es entonces cuando necesitaremos todas nuestras fuerzas hasta el máximo.

Una cosa es atacar y otra, saber resistir y dominar el arte de mantener las posiciones conquistadas.

Nos pondremos en condiciones de poder contener estos contraataques y cómo enfrentarlos. Emplearemos nuestras experiencias de Brunete, Teruel y Aragón para aniquilar por completo al enemigo, por medio de nuestro desafío hacia él, con orden, unidos en el fuego, en acción y con el espíritu sereno.

Cada posición que logremos ocupar, es igual si es para más tiempo o solo momentáneamente, debe ser fortificada, porque te protege contra las balas del adversario, del bombardeo, de la artillería enemiga y de sus aviones. ¡Fortificar sin descanso!

¡Atacad! ¡Fortificad! ¡Resistid!

Este es el orden del día de hoy. Ya fueron obligados los fascistas a desistir de sus presuras sobre la heroica tierra levantina. El Pueblo antifascista de España y de todas las naciones del mundo tienen los ojos puestos en vosotros y os alientan para lograr la victoria. Cada corazón antifascista palpita con el vuestro.

Cataluña quiere ser libre. ¡No quiere al fascismo! Quiere desalojar de sus fronteras a los invasores fascistas, como quiere echar a los traidores del Aragón y de la España entera.

Aplastando al bestial fascismo en los campos de batalla de España, significa una derrota para el enemigo común de todos los pueblos del mundo: el fascismo.

¡Cada soldado firme en el ataque!

¡Cada oficial debe dar órdenes claras!

¡Cada comisario dispuesto a elevar la moral y la capacidad de lucha de sus hombres!

¡Coraje, decisión, antifascismo supremo se necesita en todas las arremetidas contra el enemigo!

¡VIVA LA REPÚBLICA ESPAÑOLA!

¡VIVA EL EJÉRCITO POPULAR!

¡VIVA LA 15 BRIGADA INTERNACIONAL!

¡VIVA LA VICTORIA DEL ANTIFASCISMO MUNDIAL!

LOS ÉXITOS DE ESTOS DÍAS SON UNA PROMESA Y UNA GARANTIA DE VICTORIA

por LUIGI GALLO, Comisario-Inspector de las Brigadas Internacionales

Three months ago when the fascists thought they had annihilated the Republicans, it was said, «To Resist is to Conquer».

Ever since then resistance has been strong in Catalonia and along the Ebro. Resistance and counter-attack has been carried on during the epic battles of Levante.

Meanwhile Italian fascism has redoubled its forces. A few days ago a division of Black Shirts disembarked at Vinaroz. New and formidable war material has been used on the Teruel Sagunto road. Our soldiers have always valiently faced the attacks of the foreign invaders, defending foot by foot the sacred soil of their country.

They received the slogan to resist; they resisted. They knew that their resistance was preparing the coming counter-attacks. That counter-attack has arrived with surprise to the enemy, driving along a 150 kilometer front — from Mequinenza to the Sea.

In a single night complete units of Republican soldiers crossed the Ebro. They have swept the first enemy resistance ahead of them, and with irresistible vigor penetrated 15 and 20 kilometers into the enemy lines.

The whole enemy front was disorganized, and in short order, 5,000 prisoners were captured along with an abundant supply of war material. These are the achievements of the first few days of combat.

Our columns advance along the roads from Mequinenza to Maella, from Villalba to Gandesa, from Pinel to Cherta.

The enemy completely disorientated could not do more than send its aviators to brutally drop tons of bombs on the towns and civilian population of our rearguard. Their offensive in Levante has been forced to drop suddenly. Information has come to us that they are transferring troops and sending reinforcements to the front broken by our attacks.

The popular masses subjected under the yoke of fascism has stirred with hope for the Republic. Even General Franco was forced to recognize this. He indicated in a recent communique: «the Republican forces have been able to infiltrate around Asco, thanks to the complicity of a part of the «red» population of those towns».

The advance continues. Greater victories will be written on the pages of history because our troops are animated by an excellent morale and are determined to carry the attacks till victory is won.

Those who are fighting now are the former combatants of Madrid, and Belcaite united with the new recruits, the new divisions constituted and reorganized after the fascist offensive of Aragon.

The crossing of the river Ebro was realized with hardly efficient means. Boats with leaks transported the first brave troops. Small rowboats assured the passage of thousands of men, more solid bridges allowed the transport of heavy guns and tanks.

However, during the first hours our troops faced the enemy only with their rifles and their courage. Many of them went into the attack with bare feet.

When a people is united and animated by an inextinguishable faith in victory, nothing can stop them. That is what history has proven over and over again. Spain is an additional example.

The whole world is on the side of the Spanish Republic in this struggle. The Great Conference for Peace recently held in Paris solemnly affirms this.

The forces of the soldiers of the people of Spain united with the forces of all, will drive out the foreign invaders and establish reason and justice against the insolent fascists. The successes of these days of battles are promises and guarantees of ultimate victory.

Resistir es Vencer — se dijo hace tres meses, cuando los fascistas creían haber aniquilado a los republicanos.

Durante este tiempo se ha resistido firmemente en Cataluña y en el Ebro. Se ha resistido y contraatacado en esos combates épicos del Levante.

Mientras tanto, el fascismo italiano ha redoblado sus esfuerzos. Hace algunos días una División de Camisas negras ha sido desembarcada en Vinaroz; material nuevo y formidable ha sido utilizado en los combates de la carretera de Teruel a Sagunto. Nuestros soldados han hecho frente siempre con valentía a los ataques de la invasión extranjera, han defendido palmo a palmo el terreno sagrado de la Patria.

Habían recibido la consigna de resistir; han resistido. Sabían que la resistencia preparaba el próximo contraataque, y el contraataque ha llegado de improviso para el enemigo, aplastante, en un frente de 150 km., de Mequinenza al mar.

En una sola noche, unidades completas de soldados de la República han pasado el Ebro, profundo y temible; han barrido las primeras resistencias; han penetrado con un brío irresistible de 15 a 20 kms. en las líneas enemigas.

Todo el frente ha sido trastornado, 5,000 prisioneros y abundante material, éste es el balance de los primeros días de lucha.

Nuestras columnas marchan sobre las carreteras: de Mequinenza a Maella, de Villalba a Gandesa, de Pinel a Cherta.

El enemigo, completamente desorientado, no ha podido más que ejercer la reacción brutal de sus aviadores que han lanzado toneladas de explosivos en los pueblos y en las poblaciones civiles de nuestra retaguardia. Su ofensiva en el Levante ha tenido que ser parada en seco. Nuestras informaciones señalan que en camiones y por todos los medios disponibles son rápidamente dirigidos refuerzos al frente quebrado por nuestro ataque.

Las masas populares sometidas al yugo fascista, vuelven a tomar confianza. Hasta el General Franco, tiene que mencionarlo, indicando en su comunicado: «que las fuerzas Republicanas han conseguido infiltrarse en los alrededores de Asco, gracias a la complicity de una parte de la población «roja» de estos pueblos».

El avance continúa. Nuevas jornadas de victoria y de gloria se inscribirán en la Historia de nuestra lucha, porque nuestras tropas animadas por una moral excelente están decididas a llevar a fondo su ataque.

Son los antiguos combatientes de Madrid y de Belcaite unidos a los nuevos reclutas que luchan por la libertad de su país. Son las nuevas Divisiones constituidas y reorganizadas después de la ofensiva fascista de Aragón.

Son, aún, muy inferiores en material y en armamento a sus adversarios; pero poseen lo que no posee ninguna Unidad fascista: la conciencia de los fines de la lucha, la fe en la victoria. Es esta conciencia y esta fe las que han hecho capaces, gracias al trabajo de los Jefes y de los Comisarios, de asimilarse rápidamente la técnica del combate moderno, la capacidad de realizar sobriamente una operación tan difícil como es la del paso de un gran río.

Lo han hecho casi sin medios. Barquitas, de las que muchas hacían agua, han transportado a los primeros audaces; pequeñas pasarelas han asegurado el paso de millares y millares de hombres, puentes más sólidos han permitido el abastecimiento y el transporte de armas pesadas: cañones y tanques.

Pero durante las primeras horas nuestras tropas han tenido razón del enemigo únicamente con sus fusiles y su valor. Muchos de ellos han subido al ataque descalzados.

Pero cuando un pueblo está unido y animado por una fe inquebrantable, nada puede resistirse. Es lo que demuestra toda la Historia. Es lo que confirma otra vez el ejemplo español. Es lo que fue recordado en una frase irónica por los Voluntarios Franceses con motivo del 14 de julio: «Los sin-alpargatas españoles saludan a los «sans-culottes» de 1789».

Querían afirmar por esto que los combatientes españoles de hoy que luchan por la libertad y la independencia de los pueblos, sabrán ser dignos de sus predecesores de 1789, porque, como durante la Revolución Francesa, aquí, no solamente se defiende la libertad y la independencia de España, sino que se lucha para todos los pueblos.

Todos los pueblos ayudan en esta lucha. La Gran Conferencia por la Paz que ha tenido lugar hace algunos días en París lo ha afirmado solemnemente.

Los esfuerzos de los soldados y del pueblo español unidos a los esfuerzos de todos, cejarán a la invasión extranjera y tendrán razón en el mundo de la insolencia fascista. Los éxitos de estos días son una promesa y una garantía de victoria.



"NUESTRA TAREA PRIMORDIAL ES DERROTAR AL ENEMIGO Y DEFENDER A ESPAÑA"

(DURRUTTI)



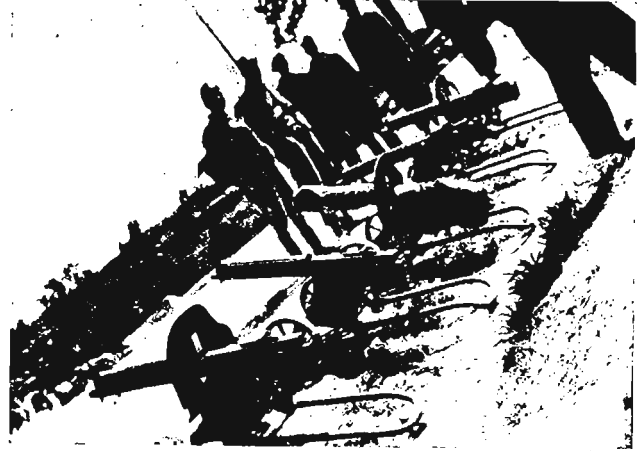
— ¡Mi arma está en orden!

— ¿Y la tuya?

El buen soldado no dis-
para más que apuntando.
Lo contrario conduce a un
gasto inútil de municiones.

Cada pieza de la ame-
tralladora tiene una fun-
ción especial a cumplir.

Cuida con esmero las
piezas de la misma y con
ella serás doblemente efi-
caz.



¿Y ESPAÑA?

*¿Luchamos o no por su independencia? Si no fuera así...
ni un segundo más de guerra, ni una gota más de sangre...
Pero cuando está en juego el porvenir de nuestra tierra, se
sucumbe o se vence... y venceremos.*

(Dr. Negrín)

THE ACTIVIST TODAY

The Activist is the propeller of his unit, he leads in heroism and in sacrifice. He encourages by example in fighting ability. He spares no energy nor not a moment in accomplishing his duty.

He obeys blindly all orders from his superiors because he knows that during battle there is no time for discussion.

He is the first to note and to fight against any tendencies of demoralization among his comrades. He spots and exposes the pessimists and provocateurs. He is the strongest in attack and the firmest in defense.

EL ACTIVISTA ES EL PROPULSOR DE LA VICTORIA

El activista es el propulsor de su unidad, el que señala el camino del heroísmo y del sacrificio, el que anima con su ejemplo y su capacidad en la lucha. No cesa ni un momento de cumplir con su deber y de demostrar su energía.

Obedece ciegamente las órdenes del mando, porque sabe que durante el combate no hay tiempo para discutir.

Es el primero que nota y combate las tendencias desmoralizadoras entre sus camaradas, el que observa y desenmascara a los derrotistas y provocadores.

¡FORTIFICAR EN SEGUIDA CADA POSICIÓN CONQUISTADA!

LA VOZ DEL EBRO: ¡ATACAR!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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EBRO OFFENSIVE FORCES' FASCISTS TO RELEASE PRESSURE ON LEVANTE

Can we not look with pride toward the People's Army which, three and a half months after the fascists have arrived to the shores of the Mediterranean, this Army fighting for democracy, is not only able to carry on victorious defenses, but is able to plan, prepare and brilliantly execute operations of such risk and importance like the crossing of the Ebro under the existing difficulties?

History is full of accounts of armies forced to cross rivers in order to attack. Comparatively few of them have been successful. Even Napoleon met defeat when he tried to cross the Danube River; faced by the Austrian Army, led by Archduke Charles, he was dealt a severe trimming. What

Napoleon was unable to do, the Spanish People's Army has already achieved on a smaller scale.

However, the attack against the enemy must be incessantly continued. Many of the difficulties of the first days, due to the insufficient number of bridges spanning the Ebro, have been eliminated. There is now plenty of ammunition; and arms for all our troops. Means of transport have been increased; the normal functioning of food supplies has been resumed, and the Sanidad Service is now properly organized. Even the press and other reading matter have been distributed by our energetic commissars.

True, the enemy is utilizing an unprecedented amount of aviation, and his infantry has highly mechanized equipment. No matter how intense their bombardments may be they will not have the same effect on our now well-seasoned warriors that they once had.

Regardless into what position you move; regardless of the length of time you remain in that position, even if it's for a few minutes, dig well into the ground. It will protect you, not only from avions, but from many of the other dangers.

The significance of the Ebro offensive can be judged by the results already obtained. The offensive was never intended to be a decisive one. It had as its main objective the halting of the terrific pressure that the Italian divisions of Blackshirts and foreign aviation was exerting on Levante to take Sagunto and subsequently Valencia.

The Ebro drive has made it possible to attain more than what was originally intended. As soon as our



SIANDANTE

LA BATALLA QUE LLEVAMOS AL EBRO

¡Con qué orgullo podemos mirar hacia nuestro Ejército Popular!

Después de tres meses y medio que los fascistas llegaron a las orillas del Mediterráneo, nuestro Ejército que lucha por la independencia de España y las libertades del mundo trabajador, se demuestra capaz, no solamente de resistir victoriosamente, si no también de hacer planes, prepararlos y ejecutarlos brillantemente y llevar a cabo una operación de tal riesgo e importancia como el cruce del Ebro bajo las dificultades que existían.

La historia militar está llena de narraciones de Ejércitos forzados de cruzar ríos para atacar, en realidad pocos fueron con buen éxito.

Napoleón mismo encontró una derrota contra los austriacos entonces mandados por el archiduque Carlos, cuando intentó cruzar el río Danube.

Lo que Napoleón no pudo hacer, lo hemos hecho nosotros con menor escala.

Pues el ataque contra el enemigo debe continuar sin cesar. Muchas de las dificultades de los primeros días están ahora eliminadas, tenemos bastantes puentes, armas y municiones para todas nuestras tropas, los

medios de transporte han aumentado, el rancho se recibe regularmente, el servicio sanitario está bien organizado, la prensa ha sido repartida por nuestros enérgicos comisarios.

Es verdad que el enemigo utiliza su aviación cuyo número es sin precedente, también es cierto que su infantería tiene material mecanizado, no obstante los bombardeos de la aviación al servicio de la invasión ya no tienen el efecto que tenía sobre nuestros valientes soldados.

Toda posición conquistada, aunque no tengas que estar en ella nada más que unos minutos, debe ser inmediatamente fortificada; cava la tierra, te protegerás contra los aviones y demás peligros.

¡FUERA LOS INVASORES DE ESPAÑA!

¡VIVA LA ESPAÑA LIBRE
E INDEPENDIENTE!

¡VIVA LA XV BRIGADA
INTERNACIONAL!

¡VIVA EL EJÉRCITO RE-
PUBLICANO!

¡VIVA EL HEROICO PUE-
BLO ESPAÑOL!



Comarada José María Sastre, Comisario de Guerra de la División



Comarada Merino, Mayor Jefe de nuestra División

soldiers crossed the Ebro, captured thousands of prisoners and disorganized the whole of Franco's Ebro front, the Levante push by the fascists was compelled to cease, for they to had shift part of their Levante «volunteers» to strengthne their broken line. This gave precious time to our brave Levante comrades to fortify and plant themselves well into the ground and make of Levante a second Madrid. It has also given General Miaja the opportunity to counter-attack along certain points of the Levante front, defeating the enemy right along and recapturing towns and important positions.

The Ebro offensive has, moreover, contributed to forcing the fascists in halting their offensive in the Extremaduran region and compel them to withdraw troops for use on their shattered line.

Our offensive has done more than just to check the attacks of the Italian-German invaders against non-Catalan Spain. The Republican Army has demonstrated to the whole world that it has today reached a higher standard of efficiency and a greater power to attack than it has ever had, and that the people of Spain are carrying on — and will continue to do so — the battle against the fascist invaders until Spain is once again totally free and independent.



Cada servicio de nuestra Brigada debe funcionar con mayor eficacia.

y

Cada Activista debe ser el primero y el mejor EN TODO.

THE SO-CALLED WITHDRAWAL OF "VOLUNTEERS"

By LUIGI GALLO

Commissar-Inspector of the International Brigades

For more than a year a lot of ink has been wasted on the proposal of withdrawal of «volunteers».

Today the newspapers say that the question has been solved and that the powers have come to an agreement to bring about the beginning of the withdrawal of «volunteers».

But, careful! It is almost a year and a half that this kind of talk has been going on, but no «volunteers» has been withdrawn.

During the early days of «non-intervention» it was said; «Yes the agreement will be made and in three months there will not be a single foreign combatant in Spain. Today the talk is, perhaps within six months, if the agreement is carried through, withdrawal of foreign combatants can begin.

It can be seen that the long and exerted studies have not helped in the solution of the questions. I don't believe we will see for a long time to come the actual withdrawal of the legions of fascist invasion, regardless of the pacts signed and counter-signed among the powers.

Naturally, all of us are for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Spain. In one of the 13 points of the Republican Government's program it is clearly stated: «Liberation from our territory of the foreign military forces which have invaded it».

In reply to the proposition by the London Committee, our Minister of State solemnly declared: «That the Spanish Government was and is firmly convinced that putting an end to the foreign intervention in Spain will mean the end of the constant danger of a European conflagration, precipitated by the foreign aggressors, and it is moreover the only way to rapidly effect the solution of the badly named Spanish conflict.

This is the original interest of our cause. If Franco loses the backing of the hundreds of thousands of legionaries and all of the foreign war material, in a short time the troops of the People's Army, who want neither the

traitor generals nor the foreigners, would crush the rebels.

But precisely because they know this, that neither Franco, nor Hitler, nor Mussolini want the withdrawal of their so-called «volunteers». They talk of withdrawal merely to cover their manoeuvres.

For 18 months this fable has continued. Every time that Franco and Mussolini have shown themselves prepared to accept the withdrawal of «volunteers», it has

been only to cover up the sending of new shiploads of troops and material, and to wrench from the democratic powers hostile concessions of boycott toward Republican Spain.

At first they declared themselves prepared to accept the withdrawal of «volunteers» if control was established against Republican Spain, but the fascists not only ignored all withdrawal but continued its intervention.

Now, again the fascists talk of the withdrawal of «volunteers» but require that the Spanish Republican frontier be hermetically sealed. For a promise that can only be effected after six months they want immediate concrete measures taken against our Government.

This is their accustomed method of blackmail against the democratic powers, blackmail that can only be broken if the popular masses of all countries raise their strength against the dubious actions and capitulations of their governments to the fascists.

With this aim in view, all popular organizations of all countries are working. They demand that fascist intervention in Spain cease, and that the legitimate Republic be allowed to buy the arms necessary for its defense.

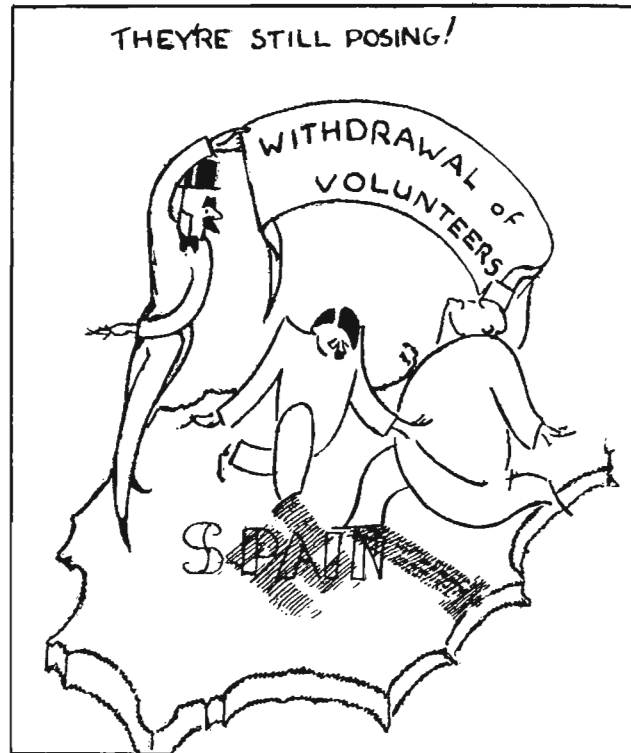
We must help in this struggle continuing to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Spanish comrades against the foreign invasion.

It is clear that, we, the true volunteers, under the orders of the Spanish Government, will not allow ourselves to be deceived by the demagogic manoeuvres of fascism. We want the withdrawal of «volunteers», but this must be truly done and effected on both sides.

At the moment it is evident that fascism has no intention of withdrawing its troops of invasion. They will not withdraw until we have smashed them with the force of our arms and by the active solidarity of all peoples.

We place ourselves as always at the disposition of the Government, disciplined and under the orders of our commanders. At that which we are commanded to do, we do sincerely. If we examine the international situation and Spain, we shall see that the so-called withdrawal of volunteers is far from being solved.

Our task for the moment is, has always been: the strengthening of our fighting capacity that of resisting the attacks of the fascists and the preparation to move into the counter-offensive thrust the final blow to fascism.



CAMOUFLAGE YOUR MACHINE-GUN NEST

Several nights ago, an enemy unit attacked one of our machine-gun nests belonging to the Special Machine-gun Battalion and succeeded in capturing the gun. With tiger fury the crew of the captured gun struck a splendid counter-blow and not only regained their loss, but seized from the enemy a small but strategic position.

SPECIAL ATTENTION must be paid to the emplacement of the machine-gun nest. The efficient cooperation of machine gunners will add exceedingly to the effectiveness of fire from our battle formations.

Every machine gun nest ought to be camouflaged in such a way that it can't be easily spotted by the enemy.

Proper camouflage of the nest will not only add to our ability to attack and resist counter-attack but will, to a certain extent, provide excellent protection for the gun crew.

Victorious Crossing of Ebro Shows Power of People's Army

At a moment when the world least expected it, the Army of the Republic has sent its message of confidence in victory. At 1 a.m. on Monday morning July 25, began the Ebro offensive which has already resulted in such great gains for the Republic. Although the world was ignorant, Spain knew and Spain's soldiers were prepared. The whole of Sunday night, excitement as at breaking point among the troops in the trenches along the whole length of the swift flowing Ebro from Mequinenza to Amposta. Every man wished to be in the first battalion to cross the river, every man was afraid that his battalion might be given the job of remaining in reserve. This was a day that the troops had been awaiting. The volunteers of the tragic days of the enemy offensive in Aragon, the veterans of July 18th., the latest recruits, the young officers in command, and men who had come from the people and had been imperiled in battle, all alike eagerly await the moment to it into practice the fruits of their training, to strike a blow against the invaders.

The night was quiet and the river flowed silently, while from this side, the soldiers strained their eyes to distinguish at other side, where friends were waiting. The order is given, and the silence is broken by the splash, splash of oars, as with muffled rowlocks, Spanish sailors, men from Galicia and the North, take across the first boats each containing 15 to 20 fully equipped men. With what envy are they watched by those who have to wait for the pontoons! One battalion could not wait, and with rifles held high above their heads, and swimming with one arm, they crossed the Ebro, to join those who had already crossed in the boats.

Thus the enemy's line of fortifications along the right bank of the Ebro, was broken at all the points set by the Higher Command. Once the crossing had been effected, the fighting began, but so great was the surprise that the resistance was quickly overcome by the landing parties, with almost no losses. Since 1 a.m. on Monday morning, the Republican troops have advanced deep into enemy territory, taking towns and villages, men and materials. But that first crossing was the greatest piece of work that has been seen. The Republican engineers, with the accomplishment of the crossing of the

Ebro, have shown the high standard of technical capacity of the Republican Army, and the heroism of its soldiers. Everything went off like clockwork, and this successful crossing determined the success of the whole project.

As the hours went by on Monday, the number of towns and positions falling to our men mounts. Flix, Ribarroja, Asco, fall one after another. In Flix our men surround the garrison, and capture the whole battalion together with personnel, armaments, officers and commander. They go to swell the ever increasing number of prisoners who are taken back over the Ebro.

The next began with the attack on Mora de Ebro, which fell in spite of its resistance. The civil population receives the men of the Army of the Ebro with joy. Even the enemy has had to admit our troops have achieved this «with the complicity of the population of those towns». The villages of Cobera, Benifallet, Pinell and Miravet, marked the succeeding hours of the advance, by their fall. The battle continues and the prisoners continue to come in.

The taking of Miravet will be remembered as one of the most interesting episodes of the Ebro battle. The town is dominated and defended by machine guns pointing across the river. The garrison of the town, or all that was left of it, retreated to the castle in an attempt to hold off the advancing troops. Shortly after, and only 4 hours after the river had been crossed by the main body, the castle is surrounded by the special battalion of one of the most famous Divisions of the People's Army, while the other battalions press on. One of the men goes forward to parley with those in the fortress. It does not take him long to convince the occupants of the futility of any resistance, and another positions falls to the advancing troops, with prisoners officers and material.

The taking of Pinell, which was also surrounded, brought a magnificent haul. A train crammed to the doors with troops and reinforcements of material of all descriptions, had been sent in answer to the desperate appeals of the enemy command in this sector. Immediately the train came across the bridge outside Pinell, it came under fire, and was surrounded by one of the battalions advancing in this sector. The enemy

Para intentar de romper nuestra magnífica ofensiva el Estado Mayor Italo-Ale. va a lanzar en sus próximos contraataques todos los tanques que puede.

Los tanques pueden alcanzar una posición, pero no pueden mantenerse en ella.

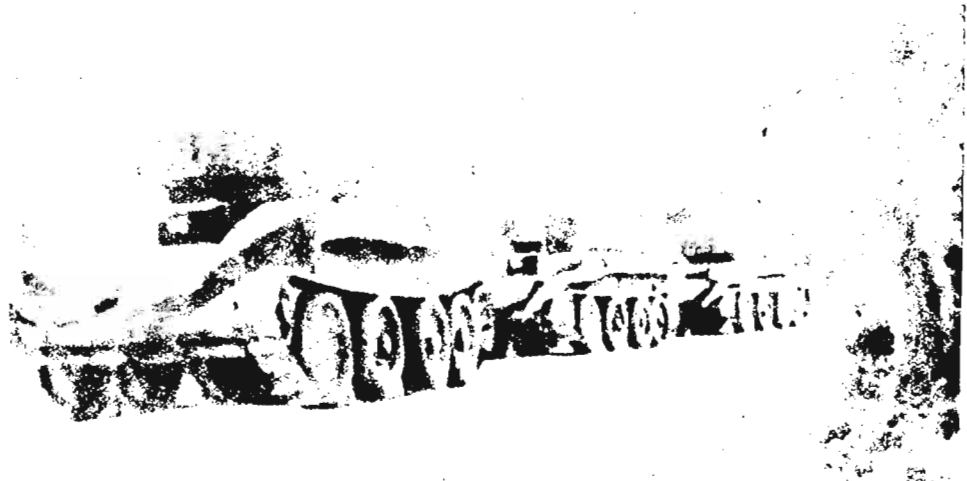
Quédate en tu posición, y si no puedes lograr el tanque cuando viene, le logras la vuelta. Tirad a la infantería que sigue a los tanques.

El tanque no es tan terrible como se cree, sobre todo, si se conoce el medio de defensa contra él. Las armas contra los tanques son: granadas de mano, líquido inflamable en botellas y balas antitanques.

Las bombas de mano y botellas inflamables, se tiran contra los tanques cuando están cerca y se pueden alcanzar.

Los tanquistas obligados de observar a través de un pequeño telescopio, sólo pueden ver lo que está en frente de ellos. Si te estás quieto sin ningún movimiento no te puede ver, y cuando se aproxima a ti te tiras tus granadas y botellas inflamables.

En campo abierto no corras nunca porque el tanque te puede perseguir. Los buenos antitanquistas pueden destruir la eficacia de los tanques enemigos con eso asegurar el triunfo de la causa de nuestra República.



was unable to put up the slightest resistance, and the entire convoy, officers and men, arms and munitions, fell into the hands of our troops.

Meanwhile, across the swift flowing Ebro, bridges are being thrown up by our engineers. Pontoons, heavy bridges, and then a cable-ferry with big flat-bottomed boats to carry heavy stuffs. As each causeway reaches the other side a cheer goes up from the waiting troops, and long columns of vehicles. The bridge is tested once, twice, three times, and then over we go. The guard and repairs section is posted at both ends of the life-line, and the engineers go on.

The foreign High Command has mobilized troops from the other fronts at full speed. They have been forced to do this because they have discovered that masses of aviation which they are using against the valiant troops of the Army of the Ebro, are not sufficient to hold them up. Enemy counter-attack may increase and even become a definite military action in which the invaders will attempt to recapture the terrain they have lost.

The distance which separates the invading troops from their immediate objective, the Teruel-Sagunto road, is not very great. The traitor General Varela was given orders by the Italo-German General Staff to «be in Sagunto by July 9th, at the latest». That was easier said than done, so since July 13th, the enemy hurled 14 divisions with some 160,000 men, 500 pieces of artillery and hundreds of planes and bombers, against our lines. The Army of the Levante resisted, the Army of the Ebro attacked, and according to information from the Commander of one of the Army Corps on the Levante front, in 6 days the enemy lost 9 to 10,000 killed, which means a total of about 30,000 losses on a 32 kilometer front.

Spain, the true Spain that wishes to be free, is showing to the world that our Spanish People's Army is composed of men and not eunuchs, of Spaniards and not of Moors, Germans and Italians. In the words of the French Socialist leader, who is with us once again: «It is now being demonstrated that the Republic can not only resist, but attack and conquer. Today more than ever before, the victory of the Spanish Republic constitutes the essential condition for the safeguard of democracy the world over. The democratic peoples of the world have a great task before them. They have to save Spain».

La historia de nuestra Patria está cuajada de hechos asombrosos de resistencia frente a la invasión. Si es preciso, España entera será una inmensa Numancia, en la que se estrellen los extranjeros que pretenden esclavizarla



GRUPO DE ANTI-AVIONISTAS

El enemigo sigue atacando con aviones, pero en eso también fracasa, porque nuestro Ejército Republicano que lucha contra los invasores extranjeros, por la independencia de España, está compuesto por soldados de experiencia frente al enemigo y los ataques de aviones, por muy intensos que sean, no logrará desmoralizar nuestros soldados.

Antiavionistas clavaos en la tierra, fuego certero por grupos, los demás evitad todo movimiento.

Confianza en nuestra victoria final.

FROM RESISTANCE TO THE ATTACK

Our present offensive marks a new stage in the putting into practice of Dr. Negrín's slogan «Resist». This slogan has already ceased to be a passive one. From now on it is no longer a question of waiting for the enemy to attack, but also of counter-attacking and dealing the enemy a severe blow wherever possible. This is in turn a step towards the later stage when the period of resistance will give place to that of attack, attack which will place final victory in the hands of the Spanish people.





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Our Faith in Victory

The three-day fiesta during which our Brigade celebrated the second anniversary of our struggle for Spain's national independence was far more than a fiesta. It was not only a matter of our battalions making merry on the days of July 17, 18 and 19 — it was, and this is far more significant, a check-up on our work, our training, our progress during the past months, our capacity, and our readiness for action.

In the reviews of our battalions, in the military contest held, we were able to check on our own qualities as soldiers — to ascertain our advances and our limitations, to point at various specific parts of our work and say: «This is good, this shows progress» and at others, saying: «Here, this demands greater application, harder work, a speedier pace».

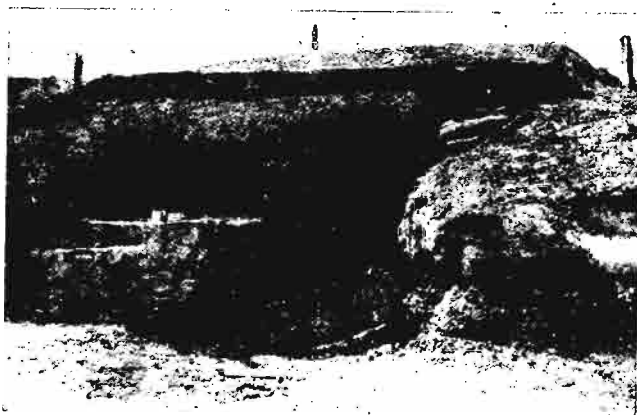
That our progress was so apparent was a source of gratification to all of us, from our Commander down to every soldier in the ranks. We saw what we had proved to our-

selves: that we had made good use of our time in rest and training.

The celebrations were more than this, however. They were a whole-hearted reaffirmation of our faith in victory, and they revealed our spirit of faith in our victory. In effect, they declared to us, ourselves, and to all who observed us during these three days, that for us there must be, can be no question of resting on laurels, on past achievements. There can be no real rest for us until the fascist invaders are driven forever from the soil of Spain.

We were not, and we are not afraid to examine and point to our faults, nor to point out the difficulties which still lie ahead of us — so great is our faith that we can overcome all difficulties and forge ahead to final victory.

This — during all of our fun-making — was the underlying tone of our fiestas, and this was the lesson of our observance of Spain's second anniversary of struggle.



FASCIST DUGOUT captured by our troops



THE TRUE VOLUNTEERS

Here we have representatives of the International Fighters of fascism. From the early days of the beginning of the rebellion in Spain, antifascists from the many corners of the world swarmed to the aid of the loyal Spanish people. They came to Spain to put their military ability and their experience of the antifascist struggle at the disposal of the Spanish people and its Government of the People's Front.

Their aim from the start has been to help the Spanish people win the war. Everyone of them understands that the fate

of all progressive mankind is as stake in Spain.

The true volunteers are taking part in this offensive, fighting as enthusiastically as they fought at Madrid, Brunete, Teruel and Aragon, to help drive out of antifascist Spain the divisions of Black-Shirts and the corps of Hitler's technicians, so that Spain may be free of the domination of foreign rule.

Victory for the Republic and National Independence of Spain will mean the beginning of the end of fascism the world over.

WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF A CABO?

In all fighting units of the Army, the work of the cabo or squad-leader is very important, but we can safely say that the work of the cabo in infantry units is much more difficult. Therefore it is essential that all squad-leaders should have a thorough knowledge of all military formations and tactics.

MUSKETRY

The cabo should have a good working knowledge of all arms used in his section, and he should also have a thorough knowledge of the theory of rifle and machine-gun fire and its practical applications.

POSITIONS AND FORMATIONS

In order to be able to lead his men in battle, the cabo must have a thorough knowledge of different formations and positions, and he must, in order to protect his squad, know the best means of taking cover, etc.

FIRE CONTROL

The cabo controls the fire of his squad and in order to be able to judge distance correctly.

SCOUTING AND PATROLS

In order to be able to lead scouting patrols a working knowledge of Topography is necessary. The men will expect their cabo to act as guide and be able to keep the right direction when on missions such as these at night, etc.

LEADERSHIP

When the cabo has made himself an efficient leader and gained the confidence of his men, he will then be able to control his men properly and punish them if necessary. But first of all he must be able to prove that he is capable of leading them. He can only do this by taking all chances open to him in learning to become a master of military technique.

JAMES STRANEY

Un pequeño grupo de soldados bien emplazados y dirigidos pueden rechazar a unidades enteras de enemigos

Este Ejército que, con su tesón, con su espíritu de sacrificio, con su terrible aprendizaje, está formando y ha formado el escudo necesario para que entretanto la verdad y la justicia se abran paso en el mundo, forja con sus puños y calienta con su sangre el arquetipo de una nación libre. Su causa, por española que sea, tiene una repercusión en todo el mundo.

AZAÑA

Presidente de la República

CABOS Y SARGENTOS, vuestro pequeño grupo puede jugar un gran papel en la lucha

EL APOYO PRINCIPAL ES EL CABO

Es deber del cabo observar la más estricta disciplina, ya que tiene a sus órdenes una escuadra compuesta por cinco hombres y él seis. Digo disciplina porque ésta es la más bella cualidad que adorna al soldado y la prenda moral que más lo realza.

Primero, el cabo debe infiltrar en el ánimo de sus soldados la obediencia a sus superiores, demostrándolo llevando esto a la práctica; hacerles conocer la importancia de los servicios con especialidad en los frentes de guerra e intruirlas de cuanto sepa para el mejor desenvolvimiento en el manejo de las armas y formas en que se han de colocar en los movimientos que se ejecuten, demostrando siempre el coraje y decisión que el momento requiera.

Deberá el cabo distinguirse siempre en su aspecto y buena armonía con su escuadra: Vigilancia porque sus soldados tengan en perfectas condiciones sus armas, conservándolas bien limpias. Dará parte por escrito de cualquier infracción de órdenes que deba cumplir y hacer cumplir, exponiendo cuanto haya ocurrido. En los servicios de guardia, ya que éstos son tan delicados, deberá observar la mayor vigilancia en los puestos de centinelas con especialidad, entre la retreta y la diana o la hora prescrita por el jefe de puesto u Oficial de Guardia, no debiendo durante este servicio recibir órdenes nada más que del Jefe del Puesto, Oficial y Sargentos de la Guardia. Al rerealizar todos estos servicios deberá rendir informe de todo cuanto haya ocurrido. ¡Salud y Libertad!

FRANCISCO ROJAS

Comisario político, el primero en avanzar

Cuando en los primeros días de febrero del año 1937 en el frente del Jarama cayó el comisario político Belmonte, tocado por una bala fascista, sus últimas palabras fueron: «Fui el primero en avanzar y el último en retroceder; cumplí, pues, con mi deber de comisario.»

Estas palabras son la consigna para todos los comisarios.

Ya en las primeras Milicias Antifascistas el comisario y el delegado político eran los incansables propagandistas y organizadores de la disciplina, del mando único y de la protección de los soldados. Su constante preocupación de satisfacer las necesidades morales y materiales de los solda-

dos, su conducta ejemplar en su vida particular y en la lucha, les han valido el cariño y la estimación de todos los combatientes.

También hoy el comisario y delegado político tienen que cumplir grandes tareas.

En primer lugar, el comisario es el más estrecho colaborador y el ayudante del mando militar. Conoce todas las órdenes que recibe y da el mando militar de su unidad y responde del cumplimiento de las mismas.

El comisario vigila que todas las órdenes del mando sean inmediatas y exactamente cumplidas. En la lucha, el comisario y delegado político están siempre allí donde existe el peligro que las

órdenes no sean cumplidas o no sean cumplidas con la rapidez necesaria, allí donde existe la necesidad de su intervención o ejemplo personal.

Pero esto no es todo.

En el frente tenemos ante nosotros un adversario potente y magníficamente armado. Mussolini y Hitler proveen a sus ejércitos en España con un rico material bélico. No cabe duda que nuestra ofensiva encontrará una tenaz resistencia y para romperla serán necesarios todo nuestro entusiasmo y toda nuestra obstinación.

El comisario y delegado político son los portadores de este entusiasmo y de esta obstinación. Con su argumentación y su ejemplo

personal animarán la lucha y el ataque contra el enemigo.

De la misma manera que durante la ofensiva fascista los comisarios fueron los más activos organizadores y el alma de la resistencia; de la misma manera que durante la estancia en reserva los comisarios incansablemente trabajaron para que los soldados aprendieran la ciencia y el manejo de las armas y se preocuparon del descanso de los soldados, así también en la ofensiva de hoy de las fuerzas republicanas, los comisarios serán los mejores ayudantes del mando militar, el cual guiará nuestro Ejército a las grandes luchas y victorias sobre los enemigos de la Libertad e Independencia de España.

LETTERS from HOME

BRIGADE VET PLEDGES WORK FOR SPAIN

Dear Ed: I have at least two more days before we get to New York City. After the time I spent in Paris, trying to help build some kind of organization to help our wounded men who pass through here, it is not without many grave apprehensions that I await New York. Strange as it may seem, work here seems to be much harder than anything in España ever was. There we had clarity and understanding in our work, and that fine healthy feeling that comes with fighting for what you think is correct in the Battalion or against the enemy.

Many of the people I've met haven't even a vague idea of the fine experience that the Lincoln Battalion lived through and is living through, and I'm going to do all I can to fill these gaps. Well, after being out a month I have a feeling now that the honeymoon is over—and I would feel a lot better if this boat were landing in Barcelona instead of N. Y. C. There'll be plenty of work cut out for us now, telling up the folks at home about things in España, telling them what's what and what's needed, getting them to write even if they never wrote a letter before, getting them to do the things without let-up, that they should have been doing all this time.

Salud,

FREDY KELLER

On Board S. S. Washington.

MOTHER TELLS SON OF GROWTH OF C. P.

Dear Dave:—Recently we received from you the book of the XV Brigade, dated May 23rd, and a few words from you written on a card dated May 8th. The book arrived a week ahead of the card.

The tenth national convention of the C. P. is over. I suppose that Louie wrote to you about it. She can give you a first-hand report. In the package I sent you about two weeks ago I enclosed Broeder's report. Now there are section conferences being held everywhere to put the convention decisions into life.

We old timers can just marvel at the splendid unity of the Party leadership and membership, at the growth of our party at its composition, etc. At Garden meetings or other mass meetings, at conventions, conferences, affairs—our comrades carry on their work, standing up with the best of them, certain of themselves, working with surety and confidence.



The children of the Republic know that the soldiers of the People's Army are their best friends. Here we have the kids of Tivissa in their best Sunday clothes being treated by the 15th Brigade Engineers with fruit, chocolate and bread.

The soldiers fighting today in the front line trenches against fascism are insuring all Spain's children a future in which they will be able to have an education and an abundance of the things they don't have today; milk, candies, toys and the necessities that make for a happy and healthy childhood.

Los Enlaces

A veces veréis en el frente, solitario por la montaña, un soldado fusil al cuello, que desafiando las balas que por su lado silban, se agazapa tras de una roca, espera un segundo y vuelve a correr. No hay duda, es un enlace.

Muchas veces habréis leído la prensa los hechos heroicos que han llevado a cabo los enlaces. Un Batallón, una Compañía, se han perdido o han sido cercados por el enemigo y cuando se encuentran en un momento de vacilación, cuando todo parece ya perdido, surge el enlace que lleva para ellos el parte que tiene que quitarles de aquella situación. El, si están cercados, les da el punto por donde deben romper el cerco, y si están perdidos, los dirige para que puedan reunirse con la demás fuerza.

El enlace, con su rapidez, puede, si no es lo suficiente rápido y decidido, ocasionarnos una derrota, o, por el contrario, puede hacer que tengamos una victoria.

Han caído muchos enlaces y caerán, porque son los ignorados, pero los heroicos camaradas que dan a nuestro Ejército una fuerza como es la de la movilidad.

Enlaces, al igual que aquellos que cayeron en la lucha por la libertad de España, que cayeron sabiendo morir por la independencia de nuestra madre España, tenemos que prometerlos, pues nos lo pide la patria, que sabremos en todo momento ser dignos del nombre que llevamos, no sólo del de "enlace", sino también del de español.

¡Vivan los enlaces!

¡Viva el Ejército Popular!

¡Viva la República!

GRUPO DE ENLACES

Last Sunday a testimonial banquet was given by the Party to honor Peter Cacchione on his five years in the party. One of the best halls in Flatbush was taken for that occasion. Everything—the hall, the music, the floor show, the meal, the crowd, the enthusiasm for the party—was excellent, for Pete was himself excellent. Yes, the party grows fast, and Broeder is becoming the outstanding leader, loved by all. His speech at the opening of the convention and the report at the convention are masterpieces. It is great to be one of the little screws of that great machine called the C. P. I personally have nothing to live for besides the party and to see you back home when democracy has triumphed over fascism.

Wounded boys are returning. I would love to take care of some who have no families. I might get in touch with the "Friends" about it. The house is big enough to shelter a boy or two. Financially they will be provided for by the "Friends".

Regards from the family,
YOUR MOTHER



IN A CATALONIAN WAR FACTORY. In spite of the fact that Chamberlain and his fascist clicks have done all in their power to deny the Republic of its legal right to buy arms, the workers of the rearguard are turning out more than ever the stuff that is helping to making this Ebro drive the success we want it to be.

Unity of the two great trade union federations will lead to final victory. And this unity, which is stronger today than it has ever been, is being forged daily on the anvils of our rearguard factories.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades ★

Vol. II - No. 29

Barcelona, August 13 - 1938

FOR THE ENTIRE LIBERATION OF SPAIN

Within six weeks of having begun their Aragon drive to the sea, the fascists were successful in dividing Catalonia from the rest of Spain. Mussolini promptly cabled congratulations to his "heroic" forces of land and air in Spain. To show that his heart was on the right side, he even sent more boatloads of well-equipped and neatly polished "volunteers" while the traitor Chamberlain simultaneously winked to him while he frowned to the world. Mussolini especially reinforced his air squadrons of Mallorca and of Spanish rebel bases with hundreds of new chasers and bombers piloted by his gallant "saviours", for the intended brief but final blow to enslave the Spanish people. Hitler, Mussolini and Franco with their habitual bluffing mannerisms erroneously took for granted that the splitting of Spain into two distinct parts would necessarily compel the Government of the Republic to yield to the conquerors.

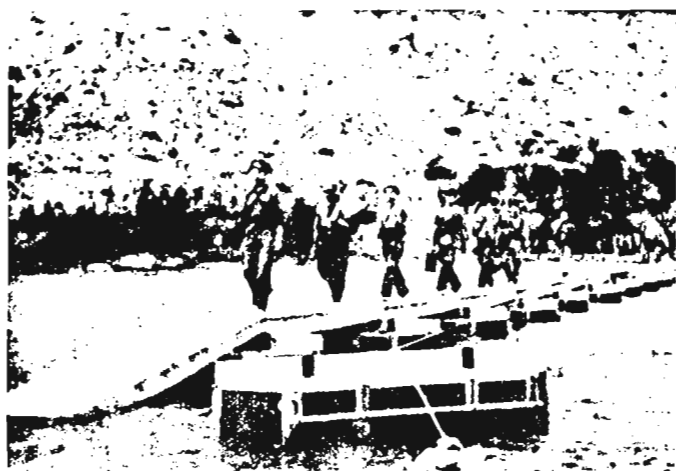
After getting to the sea, the fascist foreign Estado Mayor mapped its course of attack and planned to be in Valencia within two weeks. Only after two months of endless fighting, at the cost of thousands of troops and mountains of rifles, machine guns, tanks and ammunition, accompanied by hundreds of planes and while fascist cruiser "Canarias" shelled our lines from the

sea, were the fascists able to take Castellon after their air force had left it a pile of ruins.

The splendid defense of Levante, from Teruel to the sea, ranks with the heroic defense of Madrid. The resistance put up by the Army of Levante against 300,000 fascist troops, one third of which were Italian, will be studied by militarists and future historians, and will be pronounced as among the miracles of military history.

The Ebro offensive came at the proper moment. It came with such rapidity that the fascists were momentarily swept off their feet and thrown into a whirlwind. Catalonia struck and struck hard. She aimed at helping Levante and at the same time make a stab to free herself from the Moors and invaders that were clinging at her door-steps.

This Ebro drive is only the first stage in many more stages to come before Spain will be completely free of all invaders. Catalonia knows that she cannot be free unless all of Spain is also free. During the recent three month's lull along the Ebro and Segre fronts, the Army of the East has prepared and prepared well for the decisive battles ahead. Victory can and will be ours.



OUR TROOPS crossing the Ebro over improvised bridges. On the right are shown comrades as they used stepping stones to get ashore.
Nuestras tropas cruzando el Ebro por puentes improvisados.

EL EJERCITO POPULAR HA DEMOSTRADO EN EL EBRO SU CAPACIDAD MILITAR

La acción ofensiva del « Ejército Nacional » en tierras aragonesas tenía como misión especial el cumplimiento de tres objetivos : 1.º, en el orden militar ; 2.º, en el orden internacional, y 3.º, corromper la situación moral y política del territorio leal.

La gran ofensiva franquista empezada en Aragón y preparada, a priori, en los círculos militares de Berlín y Roma, presentaba la característica de dividir España republicana en dos partes. Separar a Cataluña del resto de la República. En efecto, el plan se cumplió al poco tiempo de su iniciación. Apoyados por grandes masas de aviación y artillería alemana e italiana, los invasores lograron rebasar nuestro territorio y llegar a la costa. Con dicha división, la derrota de los « rojos » era inminente, pensaban ellos. A Hitler y Mussolini les apremiaba la victoria de Franco. Necesitaban instalar nuevas bases militares en España para la próxima guerra mundial provocada por ellos. Sus fines de guerra estaban irradicamente claros.

Su segunda ofensiva la constituía la exuberante propaganda realizada en el exterior. Asestando tan fuerte golpe a la República creían que nuestro gobierno abandonaría sus dominios, que el pueblo español, desmoralizado y débil, sucumbiría ante la inmensa mole de metralla fascista y se resignaría a perder la guerra, que nuestro ejército se apresuraría a huir en desbandada, entregándose a los « constructores del nuevo imperio ». Esta propaganda la extendieron por el mundo y, desgraciadamente, lograron obtener algunos adeptos a su causa. Creyendo infalible la victo-

ria de Franco, en las esferas diplomáticas internacionales se decidían abiertamente en su favor.

Su tercera ofensiva consistía en organizar la superproducción de terrorismo y sabotaje a la República dentro de nuestros campos, fábricas, unidades militares, oficinas, etc. Levantarían una ola de dificultades al gobierno de Frente Popular. Los trosquistas, agiotistas, acaparadores, bulistas, etcétera, se dedicarían a ejercer influencia sobre el pueblo dada la grave situación en que se encontraba, creyendo hacer efectivos así, sus absurdos intentos.

Ese fue todo el programa que tenían preparados los estados mayores de Italia y Alemania. Pero ellos nunca pensaron, ni podían suponer, de lo que es capaz un pueblo cuando están amenazadas sus libertades e independencia. No contaron con ello y se han visto terriblemente defraudados. El pueblo español ha sabido destruir sus astutos experimentos. A la voz de RESISTIR, lanzada por nuestro querido gobierno, los soldados, nuestros obreros, los intelectuales, sindicatos y las mujeres, se aglutinaron en una sola fuerza, opo-



FIRM, disciplined, intelligent sergeants generate the power of every Battalion. The above are the sergeants of the 59th Battalion.
SARGENTOS firmes disciplinados e inteligentes engendran la potencia de cada Batallón. Los de arriba son los sargentos del 59 Batallón.

camos la ofensiva en el Ebro. Positivamente podemos afirmar que la victoria del Ebro ha sido uno de los mayores triunfos de las armas republicanas, tanto en el terreno nacional como en el exterior. Las huestes de Franco, los ejércitos invasores de Hitler y Mussolini, los incendiarios de la guerra han sufrido un rudo golpe con nuestra firme resistencia y con las últimas operaciones ofensivas del Ebro. Ha sido posible, gracias a la energía de nuestros obreros y a la disposición moral y espíritu combativo de nuestros soldados, jefes y comisarios, a la absoluta comprensión que existe entre las unidades militares del Ebro y sus respectivos mandos.

Pero esto no significa, en ningún modo, que los fascistas han de desistir en sus constantes y brutales contraataques. Tomemos a Teruel como ejemplo y contrastemos. Con nuestras últimas victorias y el óptimo valor moral y material de nuestro ejército, unido a la férrea voluntad de nuestro pueblo, hemos logrado obtener otra batalla en el mundo, incorporar miles y miles de trabajadores a la lucha contra el fascismo y ayuda inmediata al pueblo español en su lucha por la independencia y la paz mundial.

Ahora ha de ser mayor nuestra vigilancia y nuestro interés en producir más y mejor. Nuestros obreros y nuestras fábricas deben supeditarse por entero a la elaboración del material con que se nutre nuestro ejército para aniquilar a los invasores. Tenemos en nuestras manos todos los recursos que nos pueden conducir a la victoria. Renegar de alguno de ellos supone traicionar la causa de la República y ayudar al fascismo en sus intentos de colonización.

Cada uno en su puesto, con pleno sentido de la responsabilidad que tiene contraída como hombre libre y como español, firmes en nuestra resuelta decisión de arrojar al invasor de nuestro suelo y obtendremos como derecho a nuestro sacrificio, una España ampliamente democrática, independiente y con un pueblo que sepa regir los destinos de su país. MARIO



COMMISSAR JOHN GATES and J. S. U. youth during the presentation of flag by the latter to the 59th Spanish Battalion, just before the Ebro offensive was launched.

El COMISARIO de la Brigada y los jóvenes de la J. S. U. durante la presentación de una bandera al 59 Batallón, unos días antes de empezar la magnífica ofensiva del Ebro.

niendo una muralla de acero a las hordas de la invasión, luchando con tesón y hombría, acatando como dones naturales la voluntad y el sacrificio.

RESISTIR ES VENCER. Los hechos nos lo demuestran. Resistimos en Levante, en donde están seriamente amenazados puntos vitales de nuestra zona, en el Este, en Extremadura. Para ayudar a los combatientes de Levante en su resistencia provo-



THE TALLEST and the shortest man in the Lincoln-Washington Battalion
EL MÁS ALTO y el más pequeño hombre del batallón Lincoln-Washington

OBSERVERS

The job of the observer is to answer the question *que pasa?* from a military point of view. He is responsible for finding out where the enemy is, how strong he is and what he is doing. He must provide the information on which the command bases its tactical decisions and which will enable the various arms, from the infantryman's rifle to the heavy artillery, to be used most effectively.

There are two parts to an observer's task. He must see, and he must record what he sees. He must learn to look at things carefully so that he may perceive what an ordinary untrained person would not. He must be able to pick out all types of fortifications, and especially machine gun nests and camouflaged positions. The slightest bit of information on the enemy's doings may turn out to have extreme importance. Every observer must become an expert in judging distances of different objects in varying types of terrain and weather. To do these things well he must be able to use field glasses, periscopes and other optical instruments, that may be available. He must also be fully acquainted with all the workings of the compass, so that he can give the precise direction of any object he sees.

But the observer must not only see. He must also know how to describe what he sees with accuracy and conciseness. For this simple knowledge of mapping and sketching is required. A panoramic sketch should not be an artist's landscape drawing, but should contain only the most essential lines and objects. Anybody can make a panoramic sketch, even without the least artistic talent. All that is needed is a little practice. Making plane or flat maps is a little harder under



wartime conditions because the enemy does not let you walk about and measure distances, etc.

This is not the place to describe the method of making flat maps. But to explain what they are, it is sufficient to say that a flat map is what a section of the earth would look like if you were up in an airplane looking down. In addition to sketching and mapping, therefore, an observer must be able to write reports which contain everything that is necessary and nothing which is not.

The big advantage of being an observer is that you have a better understanding of what is happening at all times. The big obstacles to our work are the extreme scarcity of proper instruments and the fact that many of the Spanish comrades have been denied the opportunity of much education, and so find it difficult to learn some of the things mentioned above.

JACK FREEMAN

UKES AND FINNS OF THE MAC-PAPS

Our battalion has them too. We mean the Ukes and the Finns. They come from Canada too, but most of them have not only experienced the class struggle in Canada but have received an even more adequate preparation for the war in Spain by being through the Russian and Finnish Civil Wars.

Back in Tarazona we admired the Ukes for their swell songs and choruses, and the pleasure it was to march with them. Once at the front the Ukes proved that they could fight even better than they could sing. They have played a great part into making our battalion the crack unit it is.

The Finns have been called the "eight wonder of the world". You can't say for what exactly, they have so many remarkable things to their credit. Size for one thing, discipline for another, and

above all their love of Maxims. Dearest than a wife, dearest even than an American cigaret, is the Maxim to the Finn. He oils it lovingly and then he will tote it and safeguard it for weary kilometers under the heaviest shell fire. For this, for saving his company's arms and keeping high the morale of the company in the last action, our comrade Epp, Commander of the machine gun company, was complimented by Brigade. Another Finnish comrade swam the Ebro with a Tuckeroff.

These are our "National Minorities" who find themselves fighting side by side with other Canadians and with Spaniards. Their freedom is the forerunner of the freedom that the Catalans, the Galicians and the Basques will experience, once we'll drive fascism out of Spain.

SCOUTS

When an advance is planned, the unit commander calls in the scouts and goes over the available maps of the territory with them.

The scout will note carefully his instructions and, if time permits, sketch a rough drawing from the original maps to help orientate himself, noticing particulars by paths, roads, barrancos, etc., which seem to offer a safely covered route to the objective. After he is absolutely certain of his instructions and the position he is to scout, he will go into the territory.

His first job is to check whether or not his chosen path, road or barranco is safe for moving troops; that is, does it offer protection from machine gun and rifle fire, and is it out the line of possible enemy observation. He must also check all places at which it is possible or necessary to place a guard to keep the troops from wandering off the trail.

In checking possible enemy positions, battalion and company scouts can almost always get information from their next higher unit.

This information should be double checked by observation and all

possible blind spots in the enemy's line of fire should be noted, such ditches through which troops can crawl, slight hills which offer protection, etc.

The above is especially important as it may sometimes be possible to move troops at night fifty or a hundred meters of a position which could not otherwise be taken without a four or five hundred meter charge. Another reason for the importance of accurate information of this type is that most Spanish maps do not show small contours and the command cannot know these facts through any source other than the scout.

There are, of course, other aspects of the scout's work, which will be discussed another time. But the above details are the basis. He brings in a report along these indicated lines to the commander, together with positions marked "possibly good for machine gun" or "infantry cover fire". With such a report the scout is then prepared to take out and post the guard. He is also prepared to be used in the advance as sniper or observer.

FRANK STOUT



THE FIRST BRITISH COMPANY (Dec. 1936-Jan. 1937)

by PETER KERRIGAN

The fact that today, exactly 19 months after the First British Company, moved off to the Cordoba front, there are still 8 of those men with the British Battalion lends interest to a review of that historic episode.

Like the rest of the Internationals, the British and Irish who formed the First Coy. came in small groups during November and December, until about 150 were incorporated in a French Battalion training at the village of Madrigueras with a few odds and ends of rifles. The Coy. was commanded by Captain George Nathan, ex-British Army Officer, later to fall at Brunete after a heroic career in Spain. Ralph Fox joined the Company as Political Commissar a few days before it left for the front.

The Company was also joined

by 5 other comrades, who were the only survivors of the very first English groups in the Dumont Battalion of the 11th Brigade and the Thaelmann Battalion of the 12th. These five were all from the M. G. Coy. of the Dumont, and had been in action continuously in the defence of Madrid since the end of October. They had had full experience of the difficulties which the Spanish People's Army had to overcome in the course of its formation on the field of battle. This group which joined the Company when it passed through Albacete, was composed of Joe Cunningham, Joe Hinks, John Cornford, Jock Clarke and Sam Lesser. On Christmas Eve the Company left Albacete 145 strong, as part of the 12th Batt. of the 14th Brigade. Many thought and hoped that it would be for Madrid, but

when the Company detrained at Andujar, they found they were on the Cordoba front.

After a night's rest at Andujar, the Battalion marched to its positions among the olive groves outside the villages of Lopera and Villa del Rio. On Xmas Day, about noon, the enemy aviation made the first attack, and swooping low, machine-gunned our lads. The first victim of their planes was Nat Segal of Walthamstow, who was buried a few yards from where he fell.

Between midnight on Xmas Day and 1 a. m. the first attack on Lopera was launched. The British occupied the crest of a hill overlooking Lopera and held it till dawn when the fascist planes came. Swooping down with no opposition as we had neither planes nor anti-aircraft, they made the po-

sition untenable, and the Company had to withdraw down among the olive groves. This was repeated next night, and then the fascists counter-attacked. In the fighting on this night, Ralph Fox was killed. John Cornford also met his death as he was barely endeavouring to reach a wounded comrade. Our heaviest casualties resulted in this period, and the French comrades attacked occupying the crest with our lads supporting them. The fascists succeeded in gaining the hill again, but again the British drove them off, and started digging machine-gun nests. The crest was held for a considerable time, until it became untenable under continuous artillery fire and attacks from aviation.

Our lads then started digging in behind the olive trees at the foot of the hill, and it was there



DURING A REGENT VISIT of British students to the 15th. Brigade. In the top pictures, left, a group of British lads are displaying their company flag. Bottom: George Bean, student delegate of Liverpool University, is seen in the center surrounded with Liverpool comrades. Top, right; Edward Heath, Conservative student, speaking to the men of the British Battalion.

that I found them on New Year's Eve. Dodging from tree to tree with Luigi Gallo, I came across Captain Nathan, pipe in mouth, cane in hand. He had been making contact with the scattered groups of his men, sheltering in very shallow holes scraped out behind the olive trees. His first words to me were "How many men have you brought?" Unfortunately we were not in a position to bring any.

Joe Cunningham I found working tirelessly as second in command to Nathan, to reorganise our forces. All of them told of the terrific handicaps they suffered. Even the rifles which they had were only available on the night they left for the front, and were bad. Old Austrians, many of them jammed completely and others had to be loaded one cartridge at a time, as the magazines would not be charged.

I saw them again on New Year's Day, when squatting behind a tree which served as his Company HQ. Captain Nathan explained the position of the Battalion to Comrade Gallo. He turned over Ralph Fox's papers to me, but his body, which was under fire, was not recovered, because that night the Battalion moved to another part of the front.

January 8th. saw the British Coy. in action again. This time it was at Las Rosas near Madrid. Here a shell killed three splendid young comrades, Jimmy Hyndman, Jimmy Kermode and Jimmy Palmer. Young Hyndmann who had spent some time working in the Soviet Union, was responsible for the first Wall Newspaper of the British in Spain.

Taken out of the line on January 12, with the Coy. now under command of Joe Cunningham since Captain Nathan's promotion to Battalion Commander, the Coy. was given a great reception on its return to Albacete, to be incorporated as N.º 1 Coy. in the newly formed British Battalion.

On January 10th, it was met at the station by the Brigade Band, and marched in triumph through the streets of Albacete to the Bull Ring, where Comrade Andre Marty delivered an address of welcome which stirred me to the very depths of my being.

That Comrade Marty's estimate was 100 % correct was to be borne out less than a month later at Jarama, when our reconstituted N.º 1 Coy. played its great role with the British Battalion. Then Kit Conway of Ireland, Ralph Campeau, Political Commissar, Ken Stalker and other veterans of Lopera died, heroically defending the Valencia road.

These men made history. Their names are deathless, unfading memories, to those of us who knew them. They were the builders who laid the firm foundation of our glorious British Battalion. We salute their memory, and we warmly embrace Captain Paddy O'Daire, Lieut. Jack Nalty, Sergeant Paddy Duff, Mick Lehane, Corporal Hugh Barker, Jud Colman, Danny Boylan and Company Political Commissar Mick Economides, who are today carrying forward the great tradition of N.º 1 Coy.

We learn that Mick Economides has been wounded in the Gandesa Battle. We wish him a speedy recovery.



PART OF THE BRIGADE Machine-gun Company busily polishing up their guns for the big push across the Ebro

THE HEAVY MACHINE GUN

The heavy machine gun should be considered in the light of the smallest piece of artillery we possess, owing to the very heavy and accurate barrage which can be affected by it.

The gun is water-cooled thereby enabling long bursts and periods of firing to be maintained without injury to the mechanism. It is capable of firing 600 rounds per minute and use a complete belt of ammunition, 250 rounds. It is accurate up to a range of 2,000 meters.

The composition is as follows: Three large parts, gun, carriage and shield. The gun itself is easily taken to pieces in the following order: lock, feed block, recoil spring, grips, slides, right and left, shafts right and left and barrel. The lock itself can be dismantled in 15 parts, so one can very easily learn to understand this machine. All parts are fitted easily and workably one with the other, thereby rendering the gun unworkable if the parts are replaced in the wrong position.

The gun is usually worked from a gun-pit built specially in the trenches and it is then when it is employed at its best advantage. It is mounted in what is known as a gun table and sunk up to the axle. The wheels and carriage are weighted down with filled sand bags which minimizes the play and increases the accuracy. Because of its effectiveness and deadly accu-

racy, the gun-pit must be built to suit the terrain and according to regulations.

The pit must be well fortified and camouflaged because if observed it attracts enemy artillery fire. It is also necessary to have one or more alternate pits which can be reached. The gun must be able to control all sections of the front at a moments notice and under no circumstances must it be placed so as to be surprised by the enemy.

The gun team is comprised of 12 men made up as follows:

One sergeant and one cabo, the cabo being N.º 1 and is responsible for the firing, care and cleanliness of the gun. N.º 2 is a soldado who assists in firing by guiding the ammunition belt into the feed block. N.º 3 carries the spare part box and shield and supplies N.º 1 and 2 with ammunition.

The remaining N.º 4 to 12 carry spare boxes of ammunition and see that all belts are kept filled and in case of any stoppages of the gun assists in protecting the remainder of the team by using their rifles.

It is essential that the whole team work in perfect harmony in order to ensure that the maximum effect will be obtained.

M. E. RYAN
Machine gun Company



La experiencia de todas las guerras ha demostrado, que cuando el adversario intenta conquistar una posición bien fortificada, tiene que desgastarse, tanto en material como en hombres. Buenas fortificaciones valen tanto como el fusil y la ametralladora. Al defendernos en éstas, causamos al enemigo grandes bajas y salvamos nuestra propia vida. ¡Fortificad bien nuestras posiciones y la cobarde infantería enemiga se estrellará contra éstas!



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AMERICANS IN NON-CATALAN ZONE CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

Scarcely over a kilometer from the fascist lines, the American Anti-Tank Anti-Aereo batteries, in the non-Catalan zone, shielded from the observation and fire of the enemy by a knoll, gathered at dusk for the purpose of celebrating July 4th. The usual type of fireworks accompanying such celebrations was missing. However the fascists provided crackling explosive bullets and 75's for the occasion.

The main speaker was Major Watzek, commander of the 129th Brigade. He likened the volunteers of the International Brigades to such men as Lafayette, Pulaski, Kosciuszki, De Kalb and Von Steuben who came to the aid of the American people struggling for their independence in the 18th century. He pointed out that by our presence in Spain, we were following in the best traditions of the American Revolutionists. He stressed the need for resistance on the part of our Popular Army. "By resistance the superiority of technical equipment of the enemy would be negated by a stubborn, unyielding infantry, which in the final analysis is the most important factor in any army. Since we have a perspective as out-

lined in the 13 points, and the invaders are without any outlook for the future, our faith in ultimate victory is unshakable."

The Commissar of the Batteries, Sidney Kaufman, devoted a talk in which he briefly reviewed the history of the period and the circumstances which surrounded the proclaiming of the Declaration of Independence. He drew a parallel between the Declaration of Principles of the Spanish Republic and certain sections of the Declaration of Independence showing how they were basically the same.

The meeting was attended by representatives from the Dimitrov, Masaryk and Djacovich battalions, which joined in the singing and gaiety that followed.

With unanimous approval of all the following cable was sent to President Roosevelt:

INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETINGS TO YOU AND AMERICAN PEOPLE. LIFTING EMBARGO AGAINST SPANISH PEOPLE FIGHTING FOR THEIR INDEPENDENCE WILL SAVE DEMOCRACY.

AMERICAN ANTI-AEREO
and ANTI-TANK
BATTERIES

El fusil es el mejor amigo del soldado. En los primeros días de nuestra ofensiva los soldados de la República, sin tener apoyo de artillería ni de tanques, únicamente con los fusiles, han logrado derrotar a los fascistas invasores.

¡Tira bien, camarada! Un buen tirador puede infligir al enemigo grandes bajas.



ONE WHO CAME BACK

I have been asked time and again "What made you boys come back to Spain?" Some comrades. I am sure, must think that we had committed a crime and came back as fugitives from justice. I want to say that the reason was, and is, the desire to see fascism defeated here in Spain before another country, possibly ours, becomes the next battlefield of democracy versus fascism. It is true that there are many veterans back in America today. A number of these boys have also tried to return; but unfortunately the doctors did not think them fit. In fact, some reached Paris, only to be rejected by the medical commission there. However, the veterans remaining at home are carrying on by doing very intensive and successful propaganda work throughout the country.

When I arrived in America, I was disgusted even before I was off the boat. My feeling was increased after I landed. First of all, it was Columbus Day. Secondly, I landed in Hoboken. Put the two together and it adds up to a very unimpressive homecoming.

I applied to return to Spain in November, but was told that recruiting was cold. Furthermore, I was told that even if it were not closed the policy was to send no veterans back to Spain. It made me feel pretty miserable.

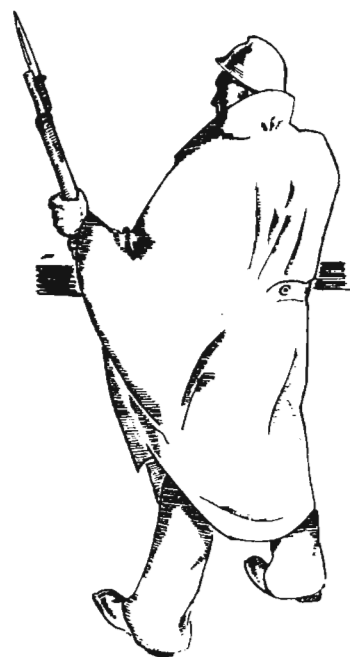
Then Joe Gordon finally got home after practically circumnavigating the globe because of passport difficulties. He and I would sit in a cafe near the office of the Friends of the Lincoln Brigade, order one drink after another and read the newspapers about Spain, Spain, Spain. On the table before us we laid out the front lines, using salt cellars, toothpicks and what not.

Finally he said to me Joe, we got to get the hell out of here, even if we stow away on a garbage scow. Then he added, "But first we must see that the 'Friends' and the veterans organizations are in the hands of good comrades: comrades who not only were in Spain, but guys that know what the boys out there need and want. In other words, down with the phonies."

We figured other veterans would be coming home from time to time, and that they would want to see the right comrades in the right positions. We knew that when we got back to Spain the boys here would want to know all about the home front. We know what it would mean to have to tell the old stories we ourselves used to hear.

Meanwhile we had heard of the changes in Spain — the improved policy in the army and in the rear, the enforcement of discipline, the better methods, etc.. We thought it would be swell to be in the old battalion once more.

Now we have been back with the Lincoln for over 9 weeks. I can honestly say that I have seen a definite change, a change that has made the Lincoln-Washington Bat-



alion not only a body of volunteer anti-fascists in the Spanish People's Army, but has trained men who will be capable of leading masses of our American workers in future struggles. These are the benefits derived from the fight here — the knowledge of leadership, the experience and the ability to be better fighters for the freedom of the working class.

JOSEPH REHILL

CABLE TO JOE LOUIS BY U.S. BOYS HERE

Elated about the victory of Joe Louis over Max Schmeling and realizing its political significance, the American Anti-Tank Anti-Aereo Battery in Central Spain sent the Heavy Weight Champion a cable of congratulations. Fully aware of the barrage of publicity Goebels and his satellites had prepared to release, all tending to prove that there is such a thing as Aryan superiority, it was felt that Joe Louis had proved himself an Antifascist in a workman-like fashion. A mere Negro, in the opinion of the Nazis, couldn't possibly defeat a full blooded Aryan. The cable was as follows:

NEWS OF YOUR VICTORY JUST ARRIVED. CONGRATULATIONS ON KAYOING MYTH OF ARYAN RACIAL SUPERIORITY. YOU HAVE JOINED US IN DEALING BLOW AGAINST ENEMIES OF DEMOCRACY.

AEREO AND ANTI-TANK BATTERIES IN SPAIN



CAPTAIN MAKELA

I've known Makela for six years or since that sunny day towards the end of May 1932 when he joined the staff of «Vapours», the only Finnish daily in Canada. He had never been in a newspaper office before, but nevertheless he developed rapidly and comparatively soon, became a responsible news editor.

But he wasn't cut for an office seat. Every now and then he expressed his wish of liking wide open spaces. He liked to go places and do things. A four walled editorial room was not for him. He spent his free time associating with miners. Lumber workers who came to town were his friends. He saw their plight and uncertain life and liked to help them organize into a union of their own.

In 1934 the paper reluctantly accepted his resignation. Makela threw his whole energy into union work. He began to fulfill his dream of organizing the workers of the mighty nickel industry (International Nickel Co.) which was making 50,000,000 dollars yearly profit and more from the sale of nickel to world powers, including the aggressor nations, and abusing every human right of its workers in the mines, smelter and refinery.

The beginning was very hard. A score of different nationalities worked in the industry. The nickel barons disliked the unionization of their workers. They had developed an efficient spy system among the different language groups, together with a whisper campaign that it was best for the miners not to join a union. The best detective methods were employed.

But this system was not good enough, not for a human cause and for able men like Makela. The union was begun in utmost secrecy. Only a handful gathered together for meetings. A small mimeographed shop paper was begun, named the «Nickel Bullet».

With the passing of months the union grew into hundreds and the «Nickel Bullet» transformed into an eight page printed weekly often, not only the workers of the nickel industry but those of northern gold centers where unionization was also going on. Makela worked untiringly as the editor of the paper and as an able organizer. When the union joined the bona fide International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, it became more bold in its activities and the weekly

became its official organ with a circulation of several thousand copies.

But Makela did not limit his activities here alone. He also worked as the District Organizer of the Communist Party of Canada and took active part in the struggles of the lumber workers. He organized some of the biggest struggles of the latter in the Sudbury district. The lumber workers knew him as a good friend and through him won many improvements in their conditions.

Makela was born in Finland. In his early twenties he sailed to Canada and made his way to the west coast. There he worked in logging camps, did some trapping and also fishing. He admired the magnificent mountains, the tall evergreen trees, the green ocean where he liked to dive into the mighty waves and his fishing boat on which he spent his free time on the outskirts of Vancouver almost under the shade of the buildings of business and pleasure of finance.

He didn't have the means to attend any school but through self study he mastered the English language. He wanted to know this massive country and its riches. He wanted to understand the people. This was sufficient encouragement to his studies. The beauty of the nature was his happiness and the life and struggle of a people was his love.

Later, many were the time when he expressed his wish of seeing the beauty of the western coast once more and grasping the hand of his old time friends. Even when we slept the last night

together under a full Spanish moon, he said, «When this war is over and we go back. I'll take a short rest and go and see the west once more.»

Right from the beginning of the Spanish struggle, Makela had his heart on the side of the people. He followed closely every phase of the struggle, and many were the times when he expressed his wish of coming over. Finally his requests were heeded to and in July 1937 saw him in Albacete, a member of the International Brigades. He entered an intensive training period. In the early part of September he moved to the front with the Mac Paps. By that time he had risen to the rank of lieutenant.

On the morning of October 13 when the Mac Paps went over the top at Fuentes de Ebro he was in command of the machine gun company. Comrades speak to this day of his tireless minute inspection of positions.

In Teruel he commanded Company One and was second in command of the Battalion. Here his company occupied a flank position.

When the positions of the English were being smashed by the fascist artillery, Makela's company had the job of beginning a heavy fire so as to draw the enemy artillery upon itself and give the English a chance to improve their situation. Typical of Makela, when the artillery began to drop like hail, Makela ran down the trench, with a rifle in his hand, and asked, «Where the hell's a pephole?»

One night he organized a bombing party. Opposite, right behind

the enemy lines, were some houses in which the fascists had placed machine guns. Under cover of darkness, six men, including Makela himself crept over the top, passed the fascist trench and came to the houses into which they threw their hand grenades. Then they returned, safe and sound.

As a result of his magnificent work in Teruel, Makela was promoted to the rank of captain.

When the Mac Paps moved up to the lines again to fight the Aragon offensive of the fascists, Makela was again in command of the machine gun company. When a retreat was necessary in the face of overwhelming enemy superiority in arms, he was one of the last men to retreat.

In the hills facing Hija, on the road to Alcañiz, he took active part in reorganizing the defence. There the line was held for a whole day. A fascist encircling movement necessitated another retreat and the following day was spent in marching to Caspe. The Battalion arrived there in diminished numbers and minus machine guns.

Every one was tired and hungry after the day long march over the mountainous country.

But next morning found Makela preparing his company to take to the lines again. Spare rifles were gathered up for those who needed them. And this was not too soon. The fascists were coming in full force, aided by plenty of tanks, bombers and chasers.

Makela had taken a flank position on a hillside, left of the town. In the late afternoon the enemy staged a fierce attack aided by tanks and planes. Makela fought an uneven battle with only rifles. A retreat was necessary. Finally he gave the order, but cautioned against disorganization. The retreat must be slow and orderly to ensure the minimum loss of men. He stood high on the hillside directing his men.

A tank shell exploded in front of him, giving him three serious wounds. He fell down an embankment where one of his Finnish comrades found him unconscious. He came to when he was roughly shaken and then two comrades helped him to the rear. On the way he gave his last orders. The retreat stopped on the hill top. The fascists could advance no further. Soon the darkness of the night came and in the morning reinforcements arrived. The stubborn resistance had served its purpose.

Makela was given two emergency operation and four blood transfusions on the hospital train but he could not survive his serious wounds.

His heroic stand on the battle field of liberty will serve as an example to the comrades who are to take his place. Moreover a people which boasts of such valiant fighters as Makela cannot but be victorious.

He never lived a life of his own. He was a son of the people and he lived the life of the people. He fell far away from his childhood home, but the Spanish people were his brothers and his true native land — the land of victorious democracy tomorrow.



LETTER FROM AN ACTIVIST

The Editor,
Volunteer for Liberty.

Dear Comrade:

I am writing this letter to you, as a means of reminding the Comrades of the strenuous future which faces us. At the recent Activists' Congress, our slogan was: EVERY SOLDIER AN ACTIVIST, and EVERY ACTIVIST A SOLDIER, with full military and technical knowledge.

During this intense period of training, our Brigade has got the opportunity of proving itself worthy of its past record and making it possible for a brighter and better record in the future. Our new Brigade Commander, Comrade Valledor, appealed to every member of the Brigade, soldado and officer alike, to prove themselves true defenders of Democracy by joining in the movement of Activists, which is now sweeping the Army with telling effect.

I feel I must impress upon all Comrades that it is not necessary to be a member of any special body of political opinion to be an Activist. The Activists' movement is spontaneous and is composed of all class-conscious Antifascists who are determined to drive out the fascist invaders. No sacrifice is too great for freedom-loving people who have shown their determination not to submit to the policy of the defeatists.

The «Volunteer for Liberty» has proved itself as a medium of expression for all ranks. So I, as a Cabo, take this opportunity of appealing to my fellow Comrades to avail themselves of all the time for training to increase their knowledge of military tactics.

EVERY OFFICER AN ACTIVIST!

EVERY SOLDADO AN ACTIVIST!

FORWARD TO VICTORY!
SALUD!

Cabo,
N. I. SYKES
57th, Battalion.

*El Ejército de la
República es ahora
verdaderamente
la Nación en
armas.*

Presidente AZAÑA



ITALIAN PILOT PRAISES REPUBLICAN AIR FORCE

The Italian pilot, Spiczi Giovauni, who on July 20, flew his plane, which was in the service of the fascists, over to Loyalist territory, is 23 years old and a Sergeant in the regular Italian Air Force since May 5, 1936.

He is the son of humble peasants and a student who, in view of his lack of means, had to leave his studies and enter the air force.

He told Loyalist authorities that his action was not unusual for a man who believes in civilisation. «I came over to Republican territory as soon as I was convinced that I had been brought to fight against a nation that is defending its independence, its soil, its outraged dignity.

«Do not believe anything of what is said there. They lie with insupportable cynicism. The pilots in the rebel camp are not fooled. They do no more than carry out the orders they receive. It is the order of the Command that they bombard civilian populations,

schools, and hospitals, because this will insure breaking the morale of the rear, and the women will demand peace sooner. Aggressions against all classes of ships are committed, without regard to nationality, because it is believed that maritime commerce will thus be driven from the Republican coast and the Spanish democracy will surrender on account of hunger. No infrequently I have seen pilots return burning with indignation because they have not come to Spain for this. Everything is false there. A great lie they tell us is that we came to fight the French and Russians who have Spain in their power.

«I took part in only one combat, over Tortosa, recently. Two days later I again left the airdrome. As soon as we observed some Republican planes we dispersed, I took a course south, and presented myself at the airdrome of the Government.

«At the present time there are some 230 pilots in rebel territory in Spain who belong to the Italian Army. It is not certain that Mussolini has decided not to send more aviators. Until a day before I left, fellow-countrymen of mine arrived flying planes from Genoa and L'Espezia.

«Fascism in my country has placed at the disposition of Franco three groups of 30 «Piats» each. These planes are now in operation and manned exclusively by Italians. Two groups of «Savoias»

no. 79 consisting of 36 planes, and other «Savoias» no. 79, making a total of 40 planes, are also in the service. These «Savoias» no. 79 and 81 are those that bombard the Republican coast.

«The foreign aviators in the service of Franco do not live together. The Italians are completely separated from the Germans, because differences would be continual and violent if they lived together. We hate each other profoundly. There are few Spanish rebel aviators. There are very few Spaniards. Those in the service guard only the cities and transport.

«The Italian planes recently suffered great losses on the Levante front. From the time the last part of the offensive began, after the occupation of Castellon forty planes were lost and all their inhabitants killed. On one day alone, the 19th, we lost three planes and four pilots in my squadron. One fell in our lines pierced like a sieve. Of the other three I know nothing. I saw them dashed to pieces on Republican territory.

«The offensive of the Levante will have tragic remembrances for the Italian people. More than fifteen thousand were killed. As for the wounded, there are no hospitals in the fascist zone to receive them. They have to be transported quickly to Morocco, because they cannot be accommodated here.

Asked by a foreign journalist what is his opinion of the Republican Air Force he said:

«The Republican Air Force is magnificent! The pilots loyal to Spain are extraordinarily able and brave, and have great disregard for their personal safety. They are really terrible, and it is most dangerous to engage in combat with Republican units.»



BRIGADE ARMOURERS

ARMEROS DE LA BRIGADA

El enemigo, cuya infantería se ha demostrado incapaz de hacer frente a nuestro empuje, intentará atacarnos con gran masa de aviones y tanques. Pero ni los aviones ni los tanques conseguirán arrebatarnos las posiciones conquistadas. Nuestra Deca y los antiavionistas contra los aviones y los antitanquistas y las bombas de mano contra los tanques.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 30

Barcelona, August 26 - 1938

ON THE ROAD TO FINAL VICTORY

The sensational success of our offensive has astounded the entire world. Not alone the fascists were taken by surprise. There was a great deal of consternation in all those diplomatic circles who have based their policies on a speedy Franco victory. The news electrified all friends of democracy revitalizing those who had been inclined to pessimism.

The feat of the Army of Ebro completely vindicated the correctness of the policy pursued by the Government after the Aragon offensive. This policy « Resist, Counter-attack-Win » has now borne fruit. Resistance enabled the Government to reorganize its forces, to strengthen the army with new recruits, to develop its cadres of officers, to mobilize the resources of the country for war and to make possible the next phase — the powerful counter-attack.

This new phase was ushered in by our offensive — a feat that filled all military experts with admiration. Even German and Italian military experts are forced to admit that our crossing the river on so many points simultaneously and by surprise was a demonstration of a well trained, highly disciplined, excellently led army and it was the result of long range, carefully planned and executed general Staff work.

The rapidity of our advance, the great gains in territory without artillery, tanks or aviation support, the 5,000 prisoners and important war material we captured are all military gains of first importance. As a result we now possess a bridgehead wide enough for a basis of large scale operation. We achieved our main objective brilliantly — the Levante offensive of the fascists has been brought to a standstill. With the pressure relieved the Levante Army has been given a chance to consolidate its defenses and even to counter-attack successfully on many points of strategic importance. As a result of our offensive the fascists now have a new front to contend with — a prospect that fills with gloom the most ardent supporters of Franco who are now despairing of an early decision.

Our victory has caused great demoralization among the ranks of Franco's forces. This was clearly demonstrated by the attitude of our prisoners. Officers who pre-

viously had fought to the last and even committed suicide at the end now willingly permitted themselves to be taken prisoners because they had lost faith in the victory of Franco. The fascist peseta took a deep tumble in the market and all foreign newspapers report a hasty flight of capital from Franco territory. Any further victory can only hasten this process of demoralization and disintegration in the Franco camp.

No less important are the results on the field of international politics.

Our offensive completely destroyed the manoeuvres of fascist diplomacy. The sleight-of-hand trick known as « Withdrawal of Volunteers » has now become thoroughly exposed. It has now become impossible for them to keep up their pretenses, all their talk about retirement has abruptly ceased. All fascist newspapers have been forbidden to mention anything about our Government's reply to the Non-Intervention Committee or to comment on it. Far from being in a position to make even a « symbolic » withdrawal they are in desperate need of more men and material.

Our victory has also provided the rearguard with new enthusiasm, renewed its faith in the correctness of the policies of the Government. It gave new impetus to unity and cemented the bonds between Catalonia and the rest of Spain.

Our Brigade and our Division have come through this action with flying colors. The biggest advance was made by our Division which proved itself the Shock-Division of the Army of Ebro. Our Brigade was considered among the best — proving the correctness of the policy pursued by our military command and political leadership.

The new policies and innovations introduced in our Brigade have proved their worth in the acid test of battle. Thanks to the rigorous training our Brigade was able to fulfill all its allotted tasks with speed and a precision worthy of any regular army. The new recruits who had benefited the most by the training gave a very good account of themselves under fire to the satisfaction of all.

The activist movement justified all our expectations. Our activists have set an example of courage, devotion, self-sacrifice wor-

thy of the highest praise. And last, but not least, the mixing of Internationals with Spanish comrades was an unqualified success raising the military effectiveness of our entire Brigade to a hitherto unknown degree.

The Officers, Commissars and the men have all fought exceedin-

gly well. They have carried out their orders in a highly efficient and disciplined manner, with a courage, devotion and a spirit of self sacrifice that only men with very high morale and complete loyalty to the antifascist cause are capable of.

The work of our Staff earned



Mural Poster by Antonio Pujol

the praise of the Higher Command and completely justified our unqualified faith in our leadership.

Of the services the work of the Transmissions was outstanding. For the first time we had telephone connections with all our units and the transmission men worked tirelessly, repairing the line time after time under intense fire when communications had been disrupted by shelling or bombardment.

We have good reasons to be satisfied with our achievements but this is no time to rest on laurels. The struggle is far from completed. We have a long way to go yet until final victory. Our struggle has entered into a new phase and we must be ready for

it. WE MUST BE PREPARED TO RESIST ALL POSSIBLE COUNTERATTACKS TO CONVERT THEM INTO ATTACK AND THUS BRING ABOUT VICTORY!

We must be alert and struggle against all those elements who at this moment are trying to underestimate our gains, belittle our achievements and are thus trying to introduce an element of pessimism, defeatism into our ranks. Cowards and defeatists have no place in our Brigade.

History is being made right here and our Brigade has been allotted a leading role, deservedly so. Let's marshal all our forces and strike blow after blow until final victory is ours!



CROSSING the Ebro

CRUZANDO el Ebro

EN EL CAMINO DE LA VICTORIA FINAL

El éxito sensacional de nuestra ofensiva ha conmovido al mundo entero.

No sólo los fascistas fueron sorprendidos. La consternación se apoderó de todos aquellos círculos diplomáticos, cuya política se basaba en una rápida victoria de Franco. Las noticias electrificaron a todos los amigos de la Democracia, revitalizando a aquellos que se habían inclinado al pesimismo.

La ruta del Ejército del Ebro, vindicó completamente la correcta política señalada después de la ofensiva de Aragón por nuestro Gobierno. Esta política: RESISTIR-CONTRAATACAR-GANAR, ha fructificado. La resistencia facilitó al Gobierno la reorganización de las fuerzas, fortaleció el Ejército con nuevos reclutas, desarrolló nuevos cuadros de oficiales, movilizó los recursos del país para la guerra, e hizo posible la nueva fase.

Esta nueva fase fué iniciada por nuestra ofensiva — una ruta que llenó de admiración a todos los técnicos militares. Aún los expertos militares de Alemania e Italia, se han visto forzados a admitir, que nuestro cruce del río, simultáneo y por sorpresa en muchos sitios, fué una demostración de un ejército bien entrenado, al-

tamente disciplinado y excelentemente dirigido y fué el resultado de un largo entrenamiento cuidadosamente planeado y ejecutado por los Jefes del Ejército.

La rapidez de nuestro avance, el enorme territorio reconquistado sin ayuda de nuestra artillería, tanques y aviación, los 5,000 prisioneros y la importante cantidad de material de guerra capturado, son todos triunfos de primera importancia. Como resultado, ahora poseemos un amplio campo, base de futuras operaciones en gran escala. Hemos alcanzado brillantemente nuestro principal objetivo. La ofensiva de Levante ha sido detenida en seco. Amortiguada la presión enemiga, el Ejército de Levante ha consolidado sus defensas y contraatacado con éxito en muchos puntos de importancia estratégica. Como resultado de nuestra ofensiva, los fascistas tienen que contener en un nuevo frente, niebla que obscurece a sus ardientes colaboradores, que desesperan de una próxima decisión.

Nuestra victoria ha causado una gran desmoralización en las filas de las fuerzas de Franco. Demostrado claramente por la actitud de los prisioneros. Oficiales que luchaban hasta el final y siempre se suicidaban, ahora se dejan ha-

cer prisioneros porque han perdido la fe en la victoria de Franco. La peseta fascista ha sufrido una baja en las cotizaciones de bolsa y todos los periódicos extranjeros dan cuenta del «vuelo» de capitales del territorio fascista. Cualquiera otra victoria nuestra acelerará más aún este proceso de desmoralización y desintegración en el Campo de Franco.

No menos importantes son los resultados en el terreno internacional.

Nuestra ofensiva destruyó las maniobras de Franco en el terreno diplomático. El juego de manos conocido por «retirada de voluntarios», ha quedado al descubierto. Ahora es imposible para ellos conservar estas pretensiones, todo lo que hablaban acerca de esta «retirada» ha cesado repentinamente. Los periódicos fascistas tienen prohibido mencionar o comentar cualquier noticia acerca de la respuesta de nuestro Gobierno al Comité de No Intervención. Lejos de mantener la posición de una retirada simbólica, se encuentran en una desesperada necesidad de más hombres y material.

Nuestra victoria ha inyectado nuevo entusiasmo a nuestra retaguardia y reafirmado la fe en la correcta política de nuestro Gobierno. Ha dado nuevos ímpetus a la Unidad y cimentado los lazos de unión entre Cataluña y el resto de España.

Nuestra Brigada y nuestra División, han actuado por entero en esta acción, poniendo muy en alto sus colores. El más grande avance fué realizado por nuestra División, lo cual le da el nombre de División de choque del Ebro. Nuestra Brigada está llamada a ser la mejor, prueba de la correcta política seguida por nuestros mandos militares y dirección política.

Las nuevas tácticas e innovaciones introducidas en nuestra Brigada, han demostrado su valor en la dura prueba de la batalla. Gracias al riguroso entrenamiento, nuestra Brigada fué capaz de cumplir todos sus deberes con la rapidez y precisión propias de cualquier Ejército Regular. Los nuevos reclutas, beneficiados por el entrenamiento, dieron un gran rendimiento bajo el fuego, con la satisfacción de todos nosotros.

El movimiento activista justificó todas nuestras esperanzas.

Nuestros activistas han sido ejemplo de coraje, abnegación y exaltado espíritu de sacrificio. La inclusión de camaradas españoles junto con los internacionales, ha sido un inenarrable éxito, que elevó la efectividad militar de nuestra Brigada a un nivel jamás alcanzado.

Los Oficiales, Comisarios y soldados, han luchado excelentemente, cumpliendo las órdenes con gran eficiencia y en forma disciplinada, con tal valor y espíritu de sacrificio, que sólo hombres de muy alta moral y completa lealtad a la causa antifascista son capaces de tener.

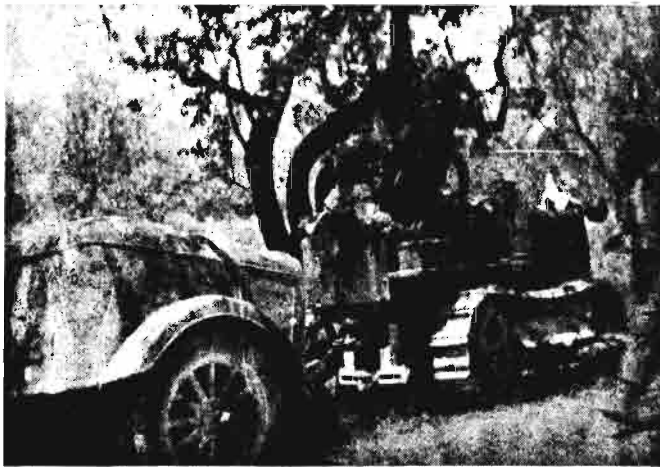
El trabajo de nuestro Estado Mayor fué tan perfecto que mereció los elogios del Alto Mando, justificando completamente nuestra inquebrantable fe en los superiores.

El trabajo de los Servicios, y del de Transmisiones, ha sobresalido. Por primera vez tuvimos teléfono conectado con todas nuestras Unidades y los hombres de Transmisiones, trabajando incansablemente, reparando la línea — de vez en cuando bajo intenso fuego —, cuando las comunicaciones habían sido rotas por las balas o el bombardeo, lo han hecho posible.

Tenemos razones para estar satisfechos de nuestra actuación, pero no es el momento de dormirmos en los laureles. La lucha está lejos de ser finalizada. Ella se encuentra en una nueva fase y debemos estar preparados. **DEBEMOS ESTAR PREPARADOS. RESISTIR TODOS LOS CONTRAATAQUES Y TRANSFORMARLOS EN ATAQUE QUE NOS CONDUZCA A LA VICTORIA.**

Debemos estar alerta y luchar contra todos aquellos elementos que tratan en estos momentos de rebajar la importancia de nuestros triunfos, hacer pequeños nuestros hechos procurando introducir el pesimismo y derrotismo dentro de nuestras filas. Cobardes y derrotistas, no tienen lugar en nuestra Brigada.

La Historia se está escribiendo aquí y nuestra Brigada, ha tenido el papel más importante, llamadamente así. Vamos con toda la potencia de nuestras fuerzas a devolver golpe por golpe, hasta que la victoria final sea nuestra.



CAPTURED from the enemy

CAPTURADO al enemigo

A PAIR OF PANTS

I had a pair of pants — one of the Spanish Army pants that tears in one place and can then be depended on to tear all over, up and down all the seams and both legs. So naturally, after the offensive had been on a few days, and I had done a lot of crawling around in the brush, and plenty of crouching low, my pants were ripped in all possible directions. The two legs were independent of each other and each one flapped around its respective leg, as immodest as a Minsky queen. Incidentally, I'd like to mention the fact that I'm over six feet tall, and have grown accustomed to the fact that Spanish men are, as a rule, short, and there aren't any pants in Spain long enough for me. Things looked bad.

I happened to creep down from the machine gun pit for a minute to stretch my legs. A comrade from the T— Brigade, an average sized short Spaniard, sees me stepping along with what's left of the pants hanging from my belt. He stops me and pulls a pair of pants out of his pack. I smile and thank him, at the same time start saying that the pants are too short, there wasn't a pair of pants for a six-footer in all Spain, let alone in his knapsack. But he smiles back and unfolds the pants. I continue telling him that I appreciate the favor but the pants are too short. He keeps smiling and holds the pants up. I look at the pants, just to let him know I do appreciate his gesture. I take the pants and hold them up at my waist... I looked all the way down the pants. I saw that they reached my feet — that they actually did fit! And I got the pants — almost the first pair I've seen in all of Spain that fit my six feet.

Now, what I'd like to know is this: just how did it happen that this short Spanish comrade from the T— Brigade had in his pack that pair of oversized pants, and happened to be near my gun pit at the particular time when I

UNA CARTA INTERESANTE NOS SENTIMOS ORGULLOSOS DE QUE NUESTRO HIJO.....

El cónsul de España en Montreal, D. José Tomás Piera, ha recibido una carta del Sr. A. M. Maclure, en la que éste acusa recibo, por sí y por su esposa, del escrito en que aquel consulado les incluía el certificado de defunción del hijo de ambos, Alejandro C. Maclure, que halló la muerte combatiendo voluntariamente en favor de la causa republicana española.

«Creo — dice el Sr. Maclure — que le interesaré a usted saber que en Nueva Zelanda, donde nuestro hijo residió durante cinco

crawled out to stretch my legs and air my — knees? I'm sure the Commissar didn't arrange it. I can't figure it out.—PAUL WENDORF, Lincoln Battalion Machine Gun Co.

años como estudiante de aquella Universidad, en Dunedin, están organizando una suscripción para crear una fundación en su recuerdo, denominada «Fundación a la memoria de Alejandro Maclure». Nuestro hijo era muy bien conocido en todo el país por su labor recolectando dinero para enviar a España una unidad médica de Nueva Zelanda. Esta semana hemos recibido de allí varios recortes de periódicos, y en uno de ellos aparece publicada una carta de una enfermera en España que conoció a Alejandro y que merced a su esfuerzo se trasladó a aquel país con otras compañeras. Una carta que recibimos de Nueva Zelanda dice: «No se alzarán monumentos de piedra a su memoria porque sabemos que Alejandro Maclure hubiera preferido que todo el dinero recaudado se

destinase a socorrer a los enfermos y heridos de España».

Alejandro Maclure se había especializado en el estudio de las Matemáticas Superiores y era acreedor al brillante porvenir que seguramente le aguardaba. Joven exento de egoísmos y que jamás pensó en sí mismo, consagrándose al bienestar de los demás, se alistó al servicio de la Causa de España, con el beneplácito de sus padres. ¡Qué diferencia entre este espontáneo impulso y la forzada leva de esos que llaman voluntarios en la zona franquista!

Aquí encontró ya muerta Alejandro Maclure. Pero esta muerte — bella muerte en defensa de una idea noble — le ha hecho objeto de admiración entre los que fueron sus compañeros. Y sus propios padres, que veneran la memoria de Alejandro, cierran la carta a que aludimos con esta frase tan sobria y tan llena de contenido espiritual:

«Nosotros nos sentimos orgullosos de que nuestro hijo haya sucumbido defendiendo vuestro ideal y hacemos votos porque el sacrificio de su joven vida no sea en vano.»

¡Admirable gesto espartano el que se encierra en este epitafio lapidario!

IN MEMORIAM

«The rifles you will never hold again
In other hands still speak against the night...»

MARK MILLMAN — Commander, 59th Battalion.
ARNOLD REID — Commissar, Machine Gun Company, 59th Battalion.
EFRAIM GUASCH — Soldado, 59th Battalion.
RUFINO MARTOS MEDINA — Soldado, 59th Battalion.
VICENTE PELEGAY MURO — Sargento, 59th Battalion.
MIGUEL VEGA NAVARRETE — Cabo, 59th Battalion.
DOMINGO NAVARRO HERNÁNDEZ — Cabo, 59th Battalion.
ANTONIO LÓPEZ ALCALDE — Soldado, 59th Battalion.

MATÍAS VANO VANO — Company Commissar, 57th Battalion.
LEWIS CLIVE — Company Commander, 57th Battalion.
DAVID GUEST — Cabo, 57th Battalion.
BRAZELL THOMAS — Soldado, 57th Battalion.

MILTON EPSTEIN — Cabo, 60th Battalion.
JACK STEELE — Soldado, 60th Battalion.

BOB RAVEN GREETS LINCOLN BATTALION

The following postcard, received by the Lincoln Battalion Commissar, reached us a week after we had crossed the Ebro. It is from Robert Raven, blinded while fighting with the original Lincoln Battalion at Jarama a year and a half ago.

«Greetings, men of the Abraham Lincoln Battalion. We're all watching you here, and fighting as well as one can here. I'm on a national tour now, raising funds for the Friends. Just left Los Angeles, where I raised 7,000 dollars. Keep up the fight — we know that when you return, you'll return as victors. Salud! — ROBERT RAVEN.»



TAKING good aim

Apuntando bien



CONSTRUCTING A «CHABOLA»

Construyendo una «Chabola»



STRETCHING a cable across the Ebro. — Pasando un cable por las riberas del Ebro.



LINCOLN-WASHINGTON observer. — Observador del Batallón



«SHOT-PUT» contest during the Battalion fiesta, «July 19»
Lanzamiento de pelota durante la fiesta del Batallón «19 Julio»

WITH THE LINCOLN

For the Lincolns it was action from the very start. Even before we crossed the Ebro we were under enemy fire and, what's more important, the enemy was under *our* fire. I don't mean only the artillery fire that was sweeping the approaches to the river all along the line on the morning of July 25. Every battalion got a bit of that, more or less, in varying degree. I'm referring to the huge trimotored bomber that coasted down, low over the beach on which our companies were spread, just as Captain Lamb, with part of our first company, was shoving off in the first boat with that fine old Spanish name, «All Right», painted on its prow. As the rest of Company One shoved off in other boats, the bomber glided low over our heads and our second and third companies, scattered on the sandy river beach, opened up, rifles and light machine guns. I remember seeing one gunner popping away at the plane, with beautiful bursts of three, while Teniente Abad Garcia, his company commander, steadied the gun on his shoulder.

Through all the fire, and while the plane continued to move directly overhead, Captain Wolff's six-odd feet loomed at the rivershore, directing the men to the boats. Once a hunk of shrapnel the size of two fists shrieked down and plopped in the mud scarcely more than two metres away from him. And the plane kept gliding, and strafing occasionally, and our comrades, unafraid, kept shooting away. If we didn't put a dozen holes in that bomber, we didn't hit him once — but it was an armored plan, and it didn't go out of commission. After a while it scooted off, and by that time the last boats, with the machine gun company and with the Plana Mayor, were across the river.

Of the long march afterward to our first hill, which we took just by climbing, there's little to say, except that we marched — up and down hills, on rocky and dusty paths. At the end of that first day we had five prisoners. And by the next morning, just before we entered Patarella, we had five more. Outside of Patarella the battalion waited till mid-day, when we contacted the — Division, our right flank. Then we pushed on down the road, deploying after a kilometre or two. A small fascist force had been sighted in the wooded country ahead. The whole battalion advanced, and in an hour we had 250 additional prisoners, and it was all over, for the moment, at least.

Then marching again — until after midnight, when we sent out a patrol to investigate suspicious movements off the hill. There, while the battalion rested and dozed, we had our first night-skirmish. A few wounded, including Teniente Paulo, commander of the Fourth Company, but the companies reformed rapidly — and soon we were on the march



COMMANDER WOLFF checking on enemy movements]
El Comandante Wolff observando los movimientos del enemigo

again, after eating tinned clams and squids and anchovies and sardines, and bread and marmalade. We needed that meal because our real work was about to begin.

After three kilometres on the morning of July 27, we deployed against enemy positions on hills facing us. Advancing perfectly, we drove them from their original wooded height, then over another hill, where our Puesto de Mando was established. Before night we had driven the enemy off still another hill ahead — and the battalion moved up again. That hill initiated the stiff fighting. At the end of that day another group of wounded comrades lay in stretchers, waiting to be evacuated:



N-WASHINGTON

Jack Hoshoolley and Herman Tabb of Company Two, young Wilfred Mendelsohn, of the Third Company — and Captain Lamb, Commander of the first company and second-in-command of the battalion.

From then on our attacks were frequent. Over the top time after time; but the enemy, nervous and scared stiff by now, had been sighted by our observation post bringing up 1,000 new troops — they appeared to be of the Tercio, the fascists' infamous foreign legion. In one morning attack a section of company three (the other two sections had been detailed to deliver our 250 prison stayed out in no-man's land from dawn till nightfall, when Bill Wheeler, aided by Jack Shaffran, carried the wounded comrades up. Tom Page was among the wounded, and he took long, deep drags of a cigaret while waiting at our first aid post, waiting for Doc Simon to finish bandaging Johnny Murra, on the adjacent stretcher.

The next two days there were frequent attacks — action thick and heavy all the time. Three commissars, of the first three companies, were hit — and evacuated despite their insistence on remaining with their companions: Morrie Goldstein, Hal Smith and Larry Lustgarten, of Companies One, Two and Three. The fascists had plenty to do — and they threw everything they had at us — trench mortars, artillery; and their avion bombed the baranco behind our hill.

There was a day of comparative quiet after we moved from

this first position, but it was needed — for the next day, August 1, was the toughest of the entire action. That was the day we attacked behind the 59th. Battalion, in that small, bottle-necked baranco that is already known to most of us as Death Valley. The story of that day and night, with enemy artillery covering the sides of the valley geometrically, and with tracer bullets weirdly lighting the whole scene, will be told, but later; now it's still too close. Anybody in the 59th. or the Lincolns will tell you about it, if you weren't there yourself. And a couple of comrades have begun to write it up for these pages.

Our final position, where we relieved the — Brigade just outside of Gandesa, was a rest compared to what had preceded it. Only trench mortars did any damage — and that was slight. But our artillery opened up on the fascist trenches near the soccer field at the town, and we could see the enemy scurrying for cover, back into the woods.

The night of August 6th we left this position behind, going into rest — and our part in the first stage of the action was over.

This is far from the entire story: the deeds have not been described, nor the men who did them. The effect on us of the arrival of the papers, with news that the fascist advance in the Levante had been stopped — this too has not been told. And a hundred other things, large and small — painful, joyous, nerve-wracking, enthusiastic — which make up any battle. But this is the bare outline. The men themselves can fill the gaps in this story, just as they did during the action, better than anyone else.

W. T.

Copic Sends Farewell to 15th Brigade

Just after the Brigade had completed the first part of its action on the Ebro offensive, Commissar John Gates received the following letter:

«Dear Comrade Gates: I am happy that, before my departure, I could hear about the good work of the XV Brigade during the last operation. Hold up now, and prepare for the next golpe.

After tomorrow I am leaving to continue the fight for Spain on other fronts.

My regards to you, Comrade Valledor, and all the officers, commissars and fighters of the VX Brigade. — V. COPIC.»

August, 6, 1938.



MAKING THEIR way across the Ebro after completion of hastily built bridge. Cruzando el Ebro por uno de los puentes construidos por nuestros pontoneros.



THOSE WHO CAME BACK. Reading from left to right: (1) Joe Rehill, transmissions; (2) Bill Wheeler, Commander, Company Three; (3) Joe Gordon, scouts; (4) Joe Cobert, armory; (5) Joe Cuban, Company One; (6) Al Tanz, Machine Gun Company. All belong to the Lincoln-Washington Battalion.



BATTALION fiesta, «July 19». — Fiesta en el Batallón «19 julio»





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PARA VENCER AL ENEMIGO

La República española, al comenzar el movimiento fascista, no tenía Ejército Regular, ni estaba preparada para hacer frente al enemigo invasor que pretendía invadir a España, y el cual nunca podrá imponer su voluntad a un pueblo que ha tenido siempre el don de su liberación, a pesar de no contar en aquel tiempo con un Ejército Regular disciplinado, organizado y armado como lo tiene hoy y con un Gobierno de Unión Nacional.

Con respecto a lo que es un cabo. Tiene muchos deberes que cumplir y hacer cumplir; como por ejemplo: conocer todos sus deberes militares en el cuartel y hoy en la guerra. Una comparación: estando de guardia debe cerciorarse de que los camaradas que están en su Escuadra tengan un perfecto conocimiento de lo importante que es dicha guardia, ya que sobre él pesa toda la responsabilidad de un pelotón, Sección o Compañía, y de él depende la vida de toda una Unidad. También debe tener conferencias con sus compañeros y

ser un verdadero orientador en los momentos más difíciles, haciéndoles comprender la consigna de nuestro glorioso Gobierno de RESISTIR, QUE ES VENCER, y cuando esté de guardia vigilar muy de cerca el comportamiento de sus camaradas, que un descuido puede acarrear malas consecuencias. Debe procurar siempre enseñar a sus camaradas todo lo que esté a su alcance y sobre todo en lo moral, luego, en lo militar y en el frente, ha de tener especial cuidado sobre el control de ellos e indicando siempre el lugar menos peligroso, y si es posible, señalar el mejor y escoger de esta manera el mejor terreno y procurar tener siempre un verdadero control en ellos, para que, en un momento dado, ser los primeros en estar listos para lo que sea menester, haciéndoles comprender que el Ejército de hoy no es el anterior, y que nuestra victoria depende siempre, por lo regular, de las escuadras y pelotones bien organizados y disciplinados, y de esta forma venceremos al enemigo mayor: el Fascio.

VAZQUEZ

COPERNICO

Copernico is alive! Throughout the Brigade there are those who knew and, it follows, admired him, who will be overjoyed to hear it. We knew he was captured (during the March retreat) and almost certainly felt that he was killed. Now we have received a letter from him to say that he is in the other half, on the Levante front and asking, characteristically enough, for his back pay. I first knew Copernico in Tarragona when he was commander of the 2nd Company, the Specialist company, and I couldn't help remarking along with others that small as he was, there was nothing incongruous about his erect little figure as he marched in front of such giants as Charlie Youngblood, or Luke Hinman. Everyone respected him because he was so obviously a soldier who knew his job down to the smallest detail. He was a hard worker too, devoted to the cause of Antifascism. There is a story that when he was very ill, he was called in front of Major Johnson.

«Copernico, I think you'd better take a rest.»

«No comrade Johnson, I don't need it.»

«You can take a week's leave.»

«No thank you comrade.»

«Copernico», said the Major grimly, «if you don't take a



week's leave I'll throw you into jail». So little Copernico went and two days later he was back.

Ill as he was, on manoeuvres he was here, there and everywhere and always in the right place, and when everybody else was dog-tired, he was still bright and cheerful.

His exploit which resulted in his capture was entirely typical of his coolness and resource.

Just past Gandesa. The Lincoln-Washington were passing through a valley. It was dawn and the men were hardly discernible. Suddenly from a commanding height, our boys heard the command «Alto».

Immediately Copernico answered «Alto».

«¿Quién es?»

«¿Quién es?» demanded Copernico.

And for what seemed hours Copernico played with them, while the Battalion passed out of range. It was getting lighter and the last few men were just filing past when the order came to approach. It was certain that they were fascists on the hill, for one of them had just shouted in German «Eighth Division». As slowly as possible Copernico drew out his white handkerchief and went up the hill.

He had surrendered to save the last few men, just as he had saved the rest.

Death seemed inevitable after his audacity. But he has escaped. One of these days we'll get his story. It will be as remarkable as his other exploit.

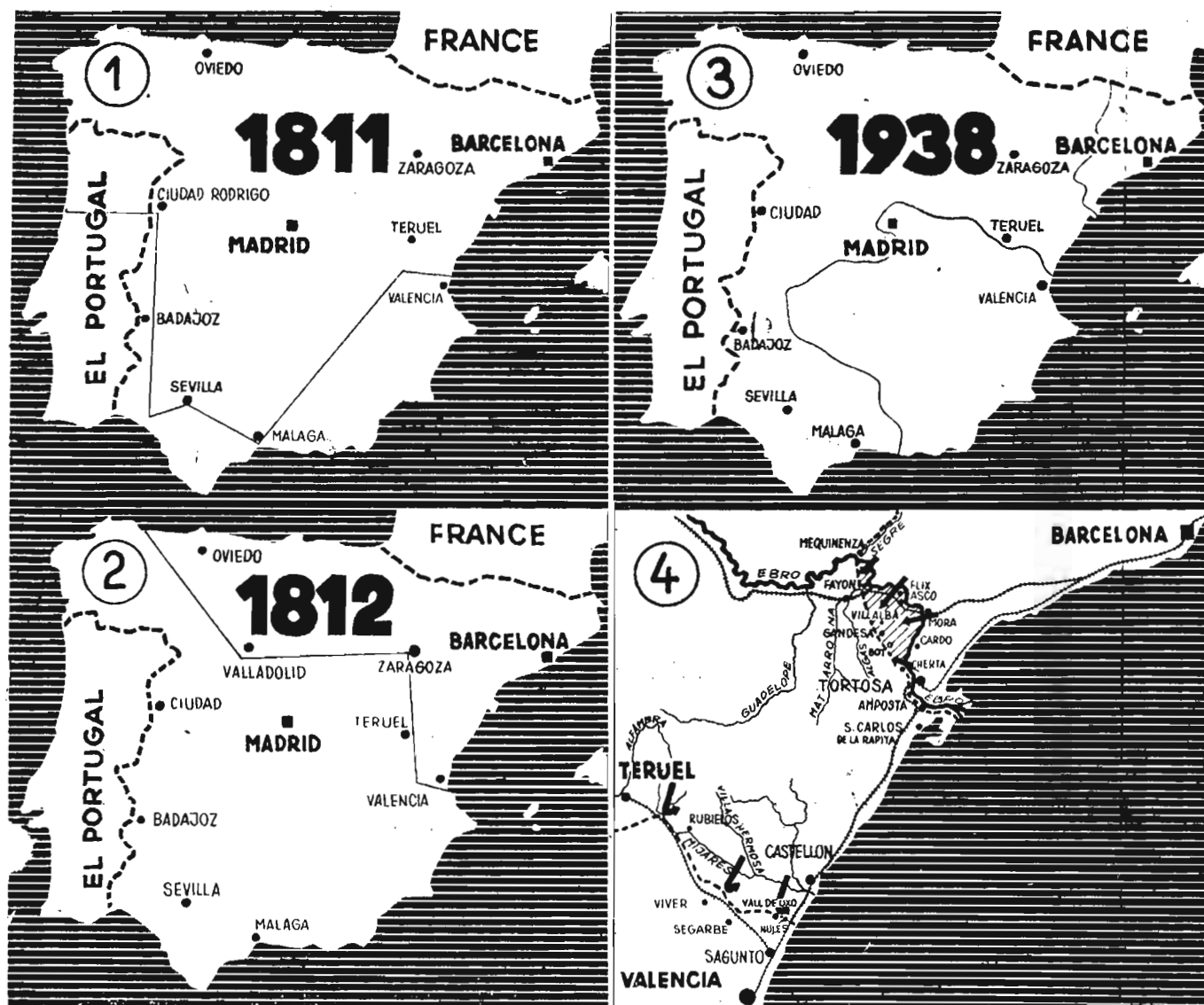
MORRIS MILLER

«THE POMPOUS UGLY SYLLABLES..»

«...On this (the Government's) side, there is the flash of the human spirit, alive in inconceivable struggle and difficulty. What comes over from the other (the Fascists') side, carrying the engines of mutilation for men, women and children alike, is the flashing piratical horde of the Duce's airplanes... deadly against the impartial sun. We can lie beneath them and reflect upon the words that sent them here, the pompous, ugly syllables, the grand safe words: non-intervention, neutrality».

VINCENT SHEEAN





Nuestros mapas demuestran:

1. La situación durante la guerra de independencia española, desde hace 130 años, precisamente en ese momento cuando los ejércitos de los invasores habían ocupado ya casi toda España.

2. Pero pasado un año, ha cambiado el aspecto del mapa a favor del pueblo español.

3. Así están situados los frentes. La España republicana consiste en la parte central: Madrid, Valencia y Cataluña.

4. Los teatros de las grandes luchas actuales en el frente de Levante y en el del Ebro. En el último citado frente han pasado los republicanos a la ofensiva. Las flechas indican las direcciones principales de los ataques de Franco en el Frente de Levante y la ofensiva de los republicanos en el Ebro. El territorio ocupado en estas operaciones está rayado.

GUERRAS ESPAÑOLAS DE INDEPENDENCIA

Anotamos el año 1808. El pueblo de España se ha levantado contra el dominio arbitrario del ministro Godoy, un hombre de los más viles de aquella época. El rey Carlos, cuyo ministro fué Godoy, dimite. El hijo de Carlos, Fernando, debe ser proclamado rey. Pero para el arreglo de esta cuestión se provoca una riña. El emperador Napoleón se mezcla en ese asunto y se lleva a los pendencieros a Bayonne para desempeñar él el cargo de juez. Ante sus ojos, se desarrolla una disputa fortísima. Napoleón los manda encarcelar a los dos. En España debe ser creado el «orden y la tranquilidad» bajo el imperio de José, hermano de Napoleón. Pero Napoleón ha hecho las cuentas sin contar con el pueblo español. El pueblo se levantó contra los arrebatadores de sus derechos. En todo el país se forman juntas, en todos los sitios se organizan las guerrillas. Por ninguna parte puede aparecer un pequeño contingente de las tropas napoleónicas sin que sea asaltado. Los oficiales al servicio de Napoleón

tomaron las medidas contrarrestantes. Con despecho sin igual se lucha en las dos partes. Algunas veces parece que Napoleón, que envió ejércitos completos a España, va a ganar la guerra. Las Juntas sólo dominan ya una parte pequeña de España; en el más recóndito sur de la Península. Su situación es desesperante. Pero el peligro amenazador impulsó al pueblo español a la resistencia más enfurecida. Seis años duró la guerra. En su transcurso recibió el pueblo español ayuda por parte de un ejército inglés y una «Brigada de Hanover». 1814. Ya es dueño de su tierra. La lucha de libertad del pueblo español despertó la voluntad de la elevación nacional de Prusia y del Tirol, y capacitó a Austria para la resistencia, cuando las tropas de Napoleón habían ocupado ya Viena. Las experiencias de la guerra de guerrillas fueron estudiadas afanosamente por los reformistas Scharnhorst, Clausewitz y Cleisenau. En ellos se fundamentó también la proposición de levantar ante Napoleón,

en Prusia, todo un pueblo armado. La reacción era contraria a esta propuesta.

La guerra de independencia de España se llevaba lo mismo contra la opresión interior como la exterior. En el transcurso de la lucha del pueblo español se compuso éste una constitución libre. Se confió de la suposición de que el rey, al volver de su cautiverio bajo Napoleón, respetaría la voluntad popular. Traicionó esta confianza y seis años después se levantó el pueblo contra sus opresores interiores.

En el transcurso de la historia ha dado el pueblo español repetidamente ejemplos al mundo entero. En los tiempos de la más negra de las reacciones, cuando regía Metternich en Europa, se levantaron por dos veces los campesinos y los ciudadanos españoles, dando lugar con ello a las luchas por la libertad que se registraron en toda Europa.

Y hoy prosigue el pueblo español gloriosamente sus grandiosas tradiciones.

ESPAÑA UNICA

En otra ocasión me he dirigido a vosotros, Soldados de nuestro Glorioso Ejército Popular, y me he dirigido a vosotros desde estas mismas columnas, pero lo he hecho disertando sobre otro tema. Mi intención ha sido en esta ocasión tratar sobre tema análogo, pero quizás los acontecimientos victoriosos de estos días en los frentes de batalla hayan variado el rumbo de mis ideas y modificando paulatinamente las mismas, hago correr la pluma sobre el papel, pensando, ciertamente, que mi gran ilusión es comunicarme con vosotros.

Quisiera extenderme debidamente con vosotros, Soldados de nuestro Ejército: quisiera buscar en lo más recóndito de mi corazón sentimientos sublimes que armonicen de forma exacta con vuestras gestas heroicas. Ello es imposible, siempre, a pesar de mi esfuerzo, la sangre derramada en vuestras jornadas gloriosas, sobrepasarán por muy encima de todo sentimiento.

Se vislumbra de modo claro, tajante, de irrefutable valor positivo, que nuestro Ejército adquiere cada día que transcurre, más pujanza y mayor desarrollo de capacidad técnica. Los últimos acontecimientos así lo han confirmado, todo ello ha sido posible mediante sacrificios, sinsabores y horizontes amargos, pero en todo momento, alentados por la idea que nos asiste. Pero al fin, los derechos de ciudadanos libres se ven plasmados en hileras de hombres disciplinados, sanos y con un lema esencial; el total aplastamiento del fascismo invasor, cruel y sanguinario, para que jamás vuelvan a cruzar el cielo de España las Alas negras que bombardean ciudades, asesinan ancianos, mujeres y niños y ponen como colofón a sus hazañas de seres inhumanos, el ametrallamiento de Trenes Hospitales, donde gimen centenares de heridos, in cluso de sus propias filas, al servicio de la invasión, recogidos en los campos de batalla, por sus hermanos «los ROJOS», tratados con toda clase de cuidados y esmero, porque así lo quiere la

hidalguía de nuestra raza y la nobleza de la República Española. Toda posibilidad de justificación en estos hechos puede ser objeto de controversias. La ferocidad latente del salvajismo Italo-Germano llega a la sazón de sus aspiraciones en el suelo español, toda clase de actos vandálicos y tropelías han sido cometidos; solloza nuestra querida España, tintos en sangre sus campos, ciudades y lugares más recónditos y queridos, destruidas sus riquezas arquitectónicas y culturales, profanadas las tumbas de sus hijos más queridos y deshonradas ciudades de abolengo histórico, entre ellas, Guernica, cuya destrucción conmovió al mundo entero, y no muy lejano está el hecho que demuestra el «Objetivo Militar» que supone la Catedral de Barcelona, pletórica de ricas obras de Arte. ¿Quién puede dudar ya de la clase de civilización que comete tanta destrucción y ultraje? ¿Qué vergüenza que españoles sean los que han vendido a su Patria, a nuestra España! ¿La que también es de ellos! ¿Un hijo deshonrar a su Madre! ¿Venderla al fascismo internacional, a Alemania e Italia! ¿Qué hecho más monstruoso; pero... esta Madre, tiene más hijos... hijos buenos, sanos de espíritu y de cuerpo, dispuestos a vertor hasta su última gota de sangre por ella, por nuestra querida República española, representada en estos momentos históricos por el glorioso Ejército Popular.

ARTURO NAVARRO



WORLD-FAMOUS GERMAN AUTHOR GREETES VOLUNTEERS IN SPAIN

I am glad and proud to spend a day with the American volunteers who, worthy of the tradition of Abraham Lincoln, defend the independence of the Spanish people against foreign invaders, the freedom of the democratic world against fascist aggressors.

The strongest impression I have had in Loyalist Spain is the heroic attitude of the people, who fight and resist, who are hungry without complaining, courageous antifascists who remain democrats in their daily life under war conditions.

I have watched here, in a time of war, a tolerance in cultural, political and religious questions which one does not very often find in democratic countries where there is peace.

More and more people in the world recognize the significance of the Spanish war. You, and your fellow-volunteers from other lands, were the pioneers — you were the first to bestir the sleep of the world.

ERNST TOLLER

Ernst Toller, one of Nazi Germany's most famous exiles, is an author, poet and playwright. Among his works are «I Was a German», «Masse Mensch», «Plays» and numerous other books. He was imprisoned for five years for his revolutionary activities, and included in his career is a long stretch of military work.

INSPECTION OF ARMS.

Every soldier of the People's Army knows that if his rifle is kept in good condition, cleaned and oiled regularly, it raises the fighting capacity of his unit. The rifle properly cared for lasts longer, fires more accurately and insures the continuance of the successes recently gained on the Ebro and Levante fronts. CARE FOR YOUR RIFLE AS YOU WOULD CARE FOR YOUR LIFE

No abandonando jamás las armas, conservándolas en condiciones de hacer muchos disparos, mejorando la puntería de nuestros soldados, CONSOLIDAMOS LA VICTORIA. El Comisario ha de saber convencer a Mandos y soldados de la importancia del cuidado y manejo de las armas con las cuales alcanzaremos la victoria

Creando grupos de audaces antiavionistas, instruyéndoles para combatir a los pájaros del crimen, recompensando justamente sus heroicidades, CONSOLIDAMOS LA VICTORIA. El Comisario ha de saber impulsar la voluntad de mandos y soldados hacia una moral de victoria



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE EBRO DRIVE

More than a month has gone by since the soldiers of the Republic victoriously crossed the Ebro. Time has only confirmed and emphasized the importance of this great victory.

We reconquered many towns and important territory for the Republic.

We obliged the fascists to discontinue their offensive in Levante. Sagunto and Valencia which were threatened by the advancing enemy were able to take advantage by raising strong defenses.

We forced Quisipo de Llano to halt his offensive directed against the rich Almaden mercury mines, so coveted by the Italians.

We annihilated fascist divisions which were posted along the Ebro. The importance of the Ebro offensive lies in the fact that not only was territory gained, but, above all, it dealt a powerful blow to the stability of the army of the enemy.

Our victory on the Ebro obliges the fascists, and will continue to do so, to garrison their front with not merely troops for vigilance, but with regular corps of troops for resistance.

Franco sees that his troops are disorganized and that his fronts need more and more troops. This is his tragedy.

Their illusion for a rapid victory was vanished with our resistance; the Ebro victory means demoralization for their rear-guard.

It is for this reason that Franco has had to renounce all his promises of the acceptance of the plan for the withdrawal of foreign troops.

It is for this reason that Mussolini, in spite of the existing difficult economic and military situation in Italy is obliged to multiply his transfer of more troops and material to Spain.

It is for this reason that Hitler and Japan must momentarily halt aggressions against the pacific and democratic peoples.

The victory of the Ebro has had the most profound repercussions on the military and political situation of Republican Spain. It has elevated still more the faith of the people in victory; it has brilliantly confirmed the confidence that the people put in its army and chiefs. It has grouped solidly more than ever all the political channels and trades unions around the Government of National Union and its leader, Doctor Negrin.

It has been a hard blow to those vacillators, defeatists and advocates of compromise.

In respecting boldly the liber-

ties of the different peoples of the Republic, the Government has been able to take measures to organize, unify and plan all the services of the rear-guard, in order to obtain the maximum yield of all the energies and the sacrifices of our people for the war.

In the heat of confidence created by victory, the small government crisis was rapidly solved without infringement on any class; another proof of the solidity of the National Union against the foreign invaders.

The victory of the Ebro galvanized all our forces, all our will. It threw the enemy ranks into disorganization.

The population under Franco and the Italian people feel profoundly disturbed over the idea of going through another year in the trenches. The sacrifices supported by them are enormous.

The international importance of the struggle in Spain becomes clearer than ever. All resistance here is a brake on the planned fascist aggressions.

Each success obtained here, is a blow against world fascism.

Spain is the most advanced and most sensible sector of the struggle of democracy against reaction.

On the world front of this struggle our sector unites China, where

our brothers also obtaining great victories; that of Czechoslovakia, where the people are lifting an unbrea-
kable wall of will and decision before the threats of Hitler; that of the democratic countries where the masses are mobilizing to render active and concrete aid to our struggle; that of the Soviet Union, advanced bulwark of liberty and of democracy, where all the people are working for progress and wellbeing; that of the underground sector in those fascist countries where at the price of innumerable dangers, the heroic vanguard is battling for the defeat of its oppressors.

All these sectors fight together in this struggle, which is a world struggle between liberty and oppression, between democracy and tyranny.

We who are in the midst of this struggle, must be conscious and worthy of the tasks that are imposed on us. We must always better ourselves and dominate the technique and the art of war; to make of our Popular Army in the shortest possible time the Army of victory against the invader and against international fascism.

LUIGI GALLO,
COMMISSAR-INSPECTOR
OF THE INTERNATIONAL
BRIGADES



ROUTING the enemy after crossing the Ebro
Batallando al enemigo después del cruce del Ebro



PONTON bridge builders. They defy enemy aviation and repair the bridges as rapidly as they are damaged by bombs
Los héroes pontoneros reparan los puentes con la misma rapidez con que son destruidos por las bombas enemigas

LA SIGNIFICACIÓN DE LA OFENSIVA DEL EBRO

Ha transcurrido un mes desde el día en que los soldados de la República han cruzado victoriosamente el Ebro.

El tiempo no ha hecho más que confirmar y subrayar la importancia de la gran victoria obtenida.

Hemos reconquistado numerosos pueblos e importante territorio para la República.

Hemos obligado a los fascistas a detener en seco su ofensiva en Levante: Sagunto y Valencia, amenazadas, han podido aprovechar esta tregua para levantar defensas infranqueables.

Hemos obligado a Queipo de Llano a marcar una pausa en su ofensiva sobre el mercurio de Almadén, codiciado por el invasor italiano.

Hemos destruido con nuestro ataque las divisiones fascistas que defendían el Ebro.

Hemos visto desmoronarse ante nuestro valor y nuestra resistencia las mejores unidades de choque lanzadas por el fascismo para reconquistar el terreno perdido: decenas de millares de muertos y heridos marcan el coste del encarnizamiento fascista.

La importancia de la victoria del Ebro, no solamente estriba sobre los éxitos territoriales obtenidos, sino sobre todo porque se ha asustado un fuerte golpe a la consistencia del Ejército enemigo.

Nuestra victoria en el Ebro, obliga y obligará en el porvenir a los fascistas a guarnecer el frente, no solamente con algunas formaciones de vigilancia como antes, sino con numerosas tropas de resistencia.

Franco ve que sus tropas se deshacen, y que sus frentes necesitan más y más tropas. Esta es su tragedia.

La ilusión de una rápida victoria que se había desvanecido frente a nuestra resistencia, se transforma ahora, para los fascistas en una perspectiva de derrota en el frente, y de un derrumbamiento en la retaguardia.

Es por esto por lo que Franco ha tenido que renunciar hasta a

sus promesas de aceptación del plan de la retirada de las tropas extranjeras.

Es por esto que Mussolini, a pesar de la difícil situación económica y militar de Italia se ve obligado a multiplicar sus envíos a España de tropa y material.

Es por esto que Hitler y el Japón deben frenar sus agresiones contra los pueblos pacíficos y democráticos.

La victoria del Ebro ha tenido las más fecundas y profundas repercusiones sobre toda la situación militar y política de España republicana. Ha elevado aún más la fe del pueblo en la victoria, ha confirmado brillantemente la confianza que éste había depositado en su ejército y en sus jefes, ha agrupado más sólidamente que nunca todas las corrientes políticas y los sindicatos alrededor del Gobierno de Unión Nacional y de su jefe el Doctor Negrín.

Ha sido un golpe muy duro para todos los miedosos, los defetistas y los predicadores de compromiso.

Al respetar plenamente las libertades de los diferentes pueblos de la República, el Gobierno ha podido tomar nuevas medidas para organizar, unificar y planificar todas las fuerzas de la retaguardia, para obtener el máximo rendimiento de las energías y del sacrificio de nuestro pueblo en pro de la guerra.

En el calor de la confianza creado por la victoria, la pequeña crisis gubernamental ha podido ser resuelta rápidamente sin sacudidas de ninguna clase: otra prueba de la solidez de la Unión Nacional contra el invasor extranjero.

La victoria del Ebro ha galvanizado todos nuestros esfuerzos, todas nuestras voluntades. Ha arrojado en las filas enemigas el desconcierto, la desorganización.

Las poblaciones sometidas a Franco, el pueblo italiano se sienten profundamente turbados con la idea de pasar un nuevo invierno en las trincheras. Los sacrificios soportados por ellos son enormes.

La importancia internacional de la lucha en España aparece más



THE BRIGADE PAYMASTER'S HEADQUARTERS. This is where all the technical work regarding the pay of the comrades in the Brigade is performed. These comrades of the Pagaduría are real Stakhanovites; few in numbers, they turn out the work of a staff twice their size. Lieutenant Fred Lutz, head paymaster and chief of the Pagaduría, is writing at his desk in the rear.

SAM

The kid looks and acts about eighteen, but when you ask him how old he is, he says he's 23. «So you're 23, are you?» said the grumpy Company Adjutant. «You look about 16.»

The kid grinned and blushed and showed his missing tooth.

que nunca. Toda resistencia aquí es un freno al desencadenamiento de las agresiones fascistas. Cada éxito obtenido aquí, es un golpe contra el fascismo mundial.

España no es más que el sector más avanzado y más sensible de la lucha de la democracia contra la reacción.

En el frente mundial de esta lucha nuestro sector se une al de China, donde nuestros hermanos obtienen también grandes victorias; al de Checoslovaquia, donde el pueblo levanta una muralla infranqueable de voluntad y decisión ante la amenaza de Hitler; al de los países democráticos donde las masas se movilizan para dar un apoyo activo y concreto a nuestra lucha; al de la Unión Soviética, baluarte avanzado de la libertad y de la democracia, donde todo un pueblo trabaja para el progreso y el bienestar; al otro sector de la lucha subterránea en los países fascistas donde al precio de innumerables peligros, la vanguardia heroica se bate para la derrota de sus opresores.

Todos estos sectores se sostienen estrechamente en la lucha, que es una lucha mundial entre libertad y opresión, entre democracia y tiranía.

Nosotros que estamos en la punta de esta lucha, debemos ser conscientes y dignos de las tareas que nos incumben, debemos cada vez más, mejorarlos y capacitarnos y dominar la técnica y el arte de la guerra. Hacer lo más pronto y más brillantemente posible de nuestro Ejército Popular, el Ejército de la victoria contra el invasor y contra el fascismo internacional.

LUIGI GALLO

Comisario Inspector
de las Brigadas Internacionales

«Now comrade», he said, «you know if I hadn't been 21, I couldn't have come to Spain.»

«Well», said the Adjutant, «why the hell you come here for anyway?»

«Hell», said Sam, «I wanted to. I didn't like the way things were going back home. My folks didn't approve of me.»

«Didn't approve of you, why?»

«Well, I was making only 10 a week in the curtain-factory, an' I was taking up a lot of time organizing the workers.»

«How long you been in the infantry?»

«Four months.»

«What you do before that?»

«I was a year in the garage at Albacete.»

«You're an automobile mechanic, huh?»

«The kid grinned. «Well, sort a.»

«Then why'd you come into the infantry?»

«Well, they were cleaning all the Internationals out, so here I am.»

The grumpy Company Adjutant felt unjustifiably annoyed by the kid—but he couldn't help admiring the lad. During the action, the kid was a runner—the one runner he'd figured would fall down on his job; the one runner who, as it turned out, excelled all the others.

He'd come dashing up to the Commander in the middle of a hot fire and shout, «Now, don't get worried. The fascist bastards are just worried; they're nervous and jumpy. So they started to fire.»

He'd talk continuously, day and night, making superfluous and unnecessary comments about everything that took place. Was the avion overhead? «Christ», said Sam, «Those... bastards are back again». Bombs? «They're dropping their!...» Sam announced. Artillery? «Boyl! They're giving it to us», he'd yell in the Adjutant's ear. «Christ! They've got our range; boy, we're going to get it now! He was scared stiff; he was scared as a rabbit, but that didn't prevent him from carrying



COMRADE LUIGI GALLO, (left to right): John Gates, War Commissar of the 15th Brigade and Comrade André Marty, father of the International Brigades in Spain.

out his job. To the contrary, he displayed the only sort of courage that has any significance — he was scared to death but he did his job regardless. No fire was too hot for him to cross with his messages; no fire was hot enough to prevent him from being at the Commander's side even when it was not necessary. «Maybe Aaron

needs me», he said; «I gotta find him.»

«You young squirt you, said the grumpy Adjutant, «you'll stop calling the Commander by his first name.»

«Now comrade», said Sam, «don't get excited, everything is going to be O. K.»

A. C. B.

TO A FALLEN COMRADE

With those that bled, with those that gave their lives,
Who had no thought for individual gain,
But rather, as a man, like one who strives
For fellow men, he joined the fight in Spain.

He fought to aid a people, strong and great,
Forged in steel, by common struggle one;
Fought to see a world that knew not hate —
That all might take a place beneath the sun.

He will not see the people that shall rise
In the new-born world for which he gave his life;
Yet o'er his grave, a sound that never dies —
A happier, joyous sound, unmarred by strife.

BILL HARRINGTON.

WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF A CABO?

by ROY WATTS

The cabo in the Spanish people's army should realise that not only has he many responsibilities in connection with the whole life of the soldiers in his squad, but also that it is necessary to train himself in such a way as to become a fit and proficient officer of other rank in the event of any casualty.

During his duties as a cabo it is of first and prime importance that he should keep his own rifle and make sure that the arms of his men are in good order. He should be in a position to advise and instruct in the use and care of the squad's arms so that in times of action the "team" will be of maximum use.

He should thoroughly acquaint himself and his men as to the methods of combat and defence. The squad should be able to adopt the formations most effective against tanks, cavalry, and avion, without the slightest hesitation. They should also be capable of

speedily, entrenching themselves, the cabo making sure that positions selected are good from the point both of attack and defence.

The cabo should acquaint himself with topography and should be able to quickly take over the responsibility of leading patrols. He should be in the position to be able to guide his men in the event of being cut off, by having a knowledge of direction and the terrain.

Finally, it is obvious that a cabo should at least be able to display confidence in the orders he gives and in himself. It would be best if politically he was able to appreciate the true position of the war and its effects, in order to classify many of the incidents that may have a weakening effect on the morale of the men. It is also necessary for the cabo himself to be a good soldier in order that he may maintain the respect of his men.



ARNOLD REID

NUESTRO QUERIDO COMISARIO

Ha caído el camarada Arnold Reid, en un día de los muchos que vivimos. El Comisario Reid y yo buscábamos un sitio para emplazar la segunda máquina. Sobre una cota, viendo la situación del enemigo, estábamos varios camaradas que atendíamos aquella máquina, cuando vino una bala maldita que causó la muerte a nuestro camarada Arnold; la bala atravesó su cabeza cuando él la tenía vuelta hacia nosotros, saliéndole por la frente; fue una bala explosiva.

Fue el 29 de julio a las cuatro de la tarde, cuando perdimos a nuestro Comisario, a nuestro camarada, a nuestro amigo, que tantos y tan útiles consejos nos diera y de tan inteligente manera.

Fue muerto por el fascismo, por el enemigo, por los extranjeros invasores; murió defendiendo la libertad de nuestro pueblo, la de todos los españoles, la causa de todos los trabajadores del mundo.

Fue muerto luchando al lado del Jefe de nuestra Compañía, Capitán Ortiz en el cumplimiento de su deber.

En nombre de los soldados, cabos, sargentos y oficiales de la

Compañía de Ametralladoras del 59 Batallón, prometemos solemnemente vengar su muerte luchando con toda la decisión y coraje antifascista hasta conseguir el aplastamiento del enemigo, expulsando a mercenarios e invasores del suelo de España y a mantener la Independencia y Libertad de la República Española. Causa por la que en forma tan noble y desinteresada luchó nuestro camarada desaparecido.

El Comisario de la Compañía de Ametralladoras del 59 Batallón,

MARIANO CAÑAVERAS



Fortificando con ritmo acelerado nuestras posiciones, construyendo nuevos refugios para preservar la vida preciosa de nuestros combatientes, CONSOLIDAMOS LA VICTORIA. El Comisario ha de conseguir que cada cerro, cada río, cada piedra, sea una fortaleza inexpugnable contra el fascismo

With the Mac-Paps

The Army of the East is coming to the aid of Levante!

Like a bolt of lightning this sweeping thought penetrated every company, every unit, every soldier in this Army.

How? Where?

Again the smashing lightning



MAC-PAP HELIOGRAPHER

idea. Along a front of more than a hundred miles we would cross the Rio Ebro. Swiftly, secretly we would cross. The weak human defenses would rapidly be overpowered. The enemy was to be encircled. We were to push forward. Success called for surprise, speed and audacity.

Questions: If the whole Army of the East knows this, if every soldier is discussing it a day or two prior to the event, surely the enemy will know. And when it knows it will throw in reserves and try to halt us.

What about the fascist fortifications we've heard so much about? And their network of machine-gun nests? How would

we cross in the day time with all their aviation?

Surprise, speed, audacity — and faith in ourselves and in our command: these were the impelling forces to guarantee success. Above all — every sacrifice to relieve the Levante, to change the course of the war in our favor. With the crossing of the Ebro we would achieve still more: gain territory, morale, material; crack a significant position of the enemy organization.

We had to win!

II

It was pitch dark when the Mac-Paps were assembled. Fall in! Quiet! No rattling of canteens; no clatter of rifles; no talking; no smoking! The Ebro was to be taken — and more.

In a few minutes the Battalion was marching. It was a slow march. Marching men and camions with artillery, munitions, tanks were moving simultaneously. But on

we went, the Battalion steadily pushing towards the riverfront.

A brief sleep. Then up and marching before dawn. With the first rays of light the enemy artillery opened up, dropping their shells some distance from us. Soon we reach the waterfront. Word had passed around that the 13th Brigade had already crossed.

Rowboats were on the shores. Company by company groups piled into the boats. Enthusiasm ran high. The enemy had evidently been put to flight by those who crossed before us. The Rio Ebro was ours.

Once across the river, the observation avion paid us visits. One plane at a time came, flying low, looking for us; strafing. The Activists, the anti-avionists had not forgotten their lessons. As soon as the plane would fly low, scores of rifles cracked out and the planes would suddenly highsoar and away.

Our advance continued towards Asco. It was our job to take the



PRESENTATION of Brigade flag by the Unified Socialist Youth to the Mac-Paps
Entrega de una bandera por la Juventud Socialista Unificada al batallón Mac-Pap

A bit later the entire Battalion was in town. Prisoners and material were captured. Guards were placed in town and the remainder of the Battalion went ahead.

All through the hot day and through half the night we marched. We rested on the Gandesa road outside Corbera. In the morning we moved on for a bit, took a further rest and in the afternoon we moved forward to attack.

After a few hundred yards of marching and infiltrating we drew the enemy fire. The comrades moved ahead rapidly infiltrating in a manner showing confidence and good training. From hill to hill the fascists were beaten back. In less than two hours we advanced almost two kilometers.

Then came the «Pimple» — the damned, high fortified fascist hill supplied with a number of machine guns and plenty ammunition from which any advance from all sides could be viewed by the enemy.

Twice the enemy came over the top to attack us and twice they were beaten back. On the other hand our assaults were checked by heavy enemy fire coming from three directions: from the «Pimple», from a valley on our right flank and from Gaudesa.

The Mac-Paps joined the British Battalion in two assaults. The «Pimple» didn't bust. Its fire superiority was tremendous.

Later, during the artillery barrages and exchange of rifle fire, while digging fortifications and reorganizing the companies we reflected on what had taken place.

News came to us that the Italian-German offensive in the Levante had been stopped. More, our troops, under the impetus given by our advance, captured villages and hills in counter-attacks. Franco-Hitler-Mussolini had to withdraw troops and materials from other fronts to prevent complete loss of the Eastern zones.

We had achieved our main objective — the Levante gained a respite from the heavy fascist offensive; it gained time in which to dig in more strongly and in which to move certain units into counter-attack. We achieved more — much territory was gained and the River Ebro was in the hands of its rightful owners again.

Our faith in final victory was strengthened; our pride and faith in the soldiers, commanders and commissars of the Mac-Pap Battalion and of the whole army increased many times over. Our faith in ourselves and in our cause becomes unshakable.

Those of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion who have given their lives in this operation are those to whom the major honor must be bestowed for our success. Many of our best have fallen — fallen in a drive against the fascist enemy which has shaken the world.

The Ebro shall never be forgotten. The fine work of the Mac-Pap Battalion will live forever, dovetailing with the movement of the entire Army of the East.

The Mac-Paps are ready to march again, ready to avenge the dead, ready to deal the final death-blow to the fascist invasion of the Spanish Republic.

DAVE GORDON

town. While our artillery was pounding at the pueblo, the fascist artillery tried to impede our forward march. We kept going on. The shells caused a few casualties but could not impede the Battalion. New recruits and veterans alike were determined to go on.

It did not take long before we reached Asco. It looked deserted. Taking no foolish hazards, a few squads were sent to infiltrate into the town from several directions. Barely a shot was fired. The enemy had run. Only a few remained — easily taken prisoners.

In one house one of our Mac-Pap boys was startled when he saw a fascist soldier sitting with a rifle between his feet. Our comrade was as frightened as the fascist, he said later, but he felt that the one who would make the first move would capture the other. The Mac-Pap'er made the first move, arrested the fascist and felt much better after that was done.

SOME MAC-PAP soldiers (top) helping the peasants gather their crops. (Bottom) Mac-Pap comrades being led by a peasant to the vineyards



Algunos soldados del batallón Mac-Pap (arriba) ayudando a los campesinos a recoger la cosecha. (Abajo) Los mismos camaradas dirigidos por un campesino en los viñedos.

HOW THE ENGLISH TRIMMED THE MAC-PAPS "FUTBAL" WHISKERS

(This article was written while the Brigade was in rest.)

It was a great game. The Mac-Paps put up a swell battle and lost gamely. (It isn't too much out of the way to say they took it sort of hard, so why not say it?)

One Sunday morning—on July 10th to be accurate—the Officers, and Commissars of the British Battalion played and beat the Officers and Commissars of the Mackenzie-Papineau at soccer.

That isn't the way to begin the story but what's the difference? It still was a great game and the British comrades had to earn all their points. There was a point in the game when the British had the Mac-Paps by the score of 3-1. The Mac-Paps gained steam and showed in one for themselves. But the British played like lions and they gained another.

From then onward the game was fast and furious. The Mac-Paps demonstrated that fury to their advantage and succeeded in tying the score. If there was ferocity and fury exhibited before there isn't the word to describe the rapidity of the movement that followed.

Major Smith and Commissar Rogers of the Mac-Paps were encouraging their men on to victory. Frank was doing a swell job in interference and stealing the ball away any number of times and the Major was giving heavy propaganda to the enemy with the idea of demoralizing them. But the British had the same objectives as the Mac-Paps so Major Smith's political work was wasted. After all, Capt. Fletcher and Commissar Bob Cooney were able to hold up their own and their team (Sam Wilde was vacationing with a fever in the hospital) and they

crashed the powerful defense of the Mac-Paps—Lt. Henry Mack—to make their 5th and winning point.

In the last three minutes of the game the Mac-Paps twice made two close heart-breaking misses. They were so damned near the mark that you felt the old soccer should have curved of its own volition and scored for the Mac-Paps. But balls don't do such things, do they? And, as the trite old proverb says—a miss is as good as a game lost, or something to that effect.

The most surprised man in the game was Commissar Larry Cohen who scored what I had thought a brilliant point, which gave the Macs their fourth point. Larry's



MAJOR SMITH, «he encouraged his men to a victory that didn't come off».

OPEN LETTER TO THE YOUTH OF ALL COUNTRIES

Dear Comrade,

We Spanish and English-speaking youth of the 15th. International Brigade, who are playing our part in the fight against fascism in Spain, appeal to you in this decisive war in which the future of the world is at stake, to come to our aid.

The entire people, in the rear as well as at the front, is throwing itself enthusiastically into the work of winning the war. More united and determined than ever before, the Spanish people is confident that it can beat off the fascist invaders.

In this struggle we have lost many of the finest of our comrades, the best representatives of the youth of all countries. They have been sacrificed to the murderous fascist war machine because the Government of democratic countries have denied to the Spanish Republic the right to purchase arms for its self-defense.

We ask the youth of the democratic countries this question. How long are you going to permit your Governments to carry through this infamous betrayal of democracy, to be the accomplices of Hitler and Mussolini in this murder? Can you be satisfied that you are doing all that is possible to change this policy? Here in Spain the youth have responded magnificently by rallying 100,000 young volunteers, largely aged between 16 and 18, to the People's Army. They are coming forward to defend the future of their country and of World Democracy. We are proud to be fighting side by side with such a splendid body of youth.

But is it not a terrible tragedy that the flower of Spanish youth, the hope of the future should have to pass through the fires of war? Those of us who have come to Spain from the democratic countries feel a burning shame because of the irresponsibility of our Governments in permitting this war to be prolonged.

We are further convinced that a speedy victory of the Spanish Republic is necessary to save all the peoples from being plunged into fascist world war.

We therefore appeal to you, comrade, to act now! Let the youth in every country be the spearhead of a mighty People's movement for freedom and solidarity with the Spanish Republic. Sweep away all barriers and overwhelm the reactionary forces that are plotting your destruction.

Act now so as to save further suffering and loss of life in this war in Spain!

Act now so as to save the youth of the whole world from passing through the agony of war! Support us in this struggle and the speedy victory of Peace and Democracy throughout the world is certain!

DAVID GUEST,

(British Battalion. Killed in action during the recent Ebro offensive).

honesty disillusioned me completely. I thought he showed unequalled quickness of thought and remarkable agility when he caught that runaway ball with his knees and gently pushed it for a goal in an imitation knee-bending exercise. He said the ball came along, he happened to be there, it hit his knees, bounced off and went for a goal and was surprised to learn a moment later that he scored for his team. Larry's modest enough but there isn't any point in denying you made a point when you actually did.

I don't think it would be fair not to mention just once more that the British Battalion won fairly and squarely. It's the second game in a row in which they beat the Mac-Paps and they promise to keep beating them, strongly stating that the first several victories of the Mac-Paps were simply accidents. I don't think it's rash to guess that if the MacPaps had a few more Spanish comrades to their team that they can tame the Lions in the next match.

D. G.

GETTING WORRIED!

The Company Commissar was harassed. The boys had been beefing; the grub line was snarled up and sounded like the Chicago stockyards in a thunderstorm.

Up walks Comrade S... Said he to the Company Commissar: «Was there any mail for me today?»

«Comrade S...», said the C.C., «you know damned well that if there had been, I'd have seen that it got to you. You know damned well how anxious I am for the men to get their mail.»

«Well», said Comrade S..., in a forlorn tone of voice, «It's beginning to get serious now.»

The C.C. was harassed. «Serious», he snorted. Whaddye mean, serious? I'm getting sick of you guys beefing about the mail. How long since you've had a letter? How long, eh?»

«Well», said Comrade S..., in a small voice, «it's been nine months now.»

THE "VOLUNTEER" PRESENTS:



LUKE HINMAN; Chief of Scouts,
Lincoln-Washington Battalion



JAMES POLLOCK, JUAN CARRASCO NAVARRO and CHARLES FRAMP;
British Battalion



MATIAS FERRADO; Company Three,
Lincoln-Washington



ANTONIO SEGOVIA; Company Three,
Lincoln-Washington Battalion



LUIS PERAZA, Teniente JERÓNIMO LÓPEZ, PEDRO AGUILA RIO;
British Battalion



LUSHELL MC DANIELS, Lincoln
Washington



SAM SPILLER; Enlace, Lincoln Was-
hington Battalion



Cabo NARCISO GONZALEZ, Teniente JACK COOPER, RAFAEL MALTÉS, commissar-
All in Special Estado Mayor Machine-Gun Company



ANTONIO ESCRIBAS; Company Three
Lincoln-Washington

The Comrades of the 15th Brigade Who Have Distinguished Themselves During the Actions on the Ebro Front



GERALD COOK; Company Three,
Lincoln-Washington



ANTONIO SANCHEZ, MELCHOR PAJON, Company One, 59th Battalion



YALE STURT; Plana Mayor,
Lincoln-Washington



TENIENTE HENRY MACK;
Company Two, Mac-Pap Battalion



GROUP IN COMPANY FOUR, MAC-PAP BATTALION
Rear from left to right; Tony Gómez, Julian Di Dent, Norberto Asunción, Franz
Goeglinger, Miguel Donate, Renato Blanco, Hans. José Rodríguez. (Front row)
Carlos Arias, Gonzalo Encabo, Vicente Parres, Antonio Orti, Al Stone.



HERMAN «GABBY» KLINE;
Lincoln-Washington



THOMAS PAGE



CABO JESÚS CANO CANDEL, JOHN LOBBEN, CABO JOAQUÍN PLAZA VIDAL
All from Machine-Gun Company of the British Battalion



EFRAIM GUASH; Adjutant-Commisar,
59th. Battalion



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LT. COOPER'S HAUL

The special Brigade machine gun company came up to reinforce the 58th Battalion on July 28th. Saully Wellman, its commissar, had already been forced out of action by a shrapnel wound; and when, on his very first day with the Lincolns, the commander Capt. José Valusek, was wounded, Lt. Jack Cooper, of Cleveland, formerly of the U. A. W. Fisher Body Local, took over command of the company, which remained with the Lincolns throughout the first stage of the action.

But our story begins before all of this.

It was on July 26 that the machine gun company received information that there were fascists in the mountains, on what had until the day before been the fascist side of the Ebro. The information also stated that the 13th Brigade was battling against them.

Commander Valledor came down and showed Cooper which spot to take up and where to set up his guns, whereupon he went up with his section of men, and sent out

patrols to scout the area, look over the terrain.

"That afternoon", says Lt. Cooper, "I observed some fighting in the hill in the vicinity of the crossroads from Mora to Asco. There were grenades, machine gun fire, and shouting, the words of which I couldn't distinguish. But as they moved up closer, we could tell they were fascists and we could hear what they were shouting — Viva Franco and Arriba España."

From the size of the group, he could tell that at least two companies of the enemy were approaching. Immediately he sent one light gun and a trench mortar to the hill 300 metres behind, instructing them to open up fire and cover the rest of the section in its defending position. But the speed of the enemy's movement approaching the hill forced the entire section to withdraw to the adjacent hill behind. There they came across two of our armored cars, one of whose drivers informed them that a battalion of ours was moving up to help.

"It was the Lincolns approaching", says Cooper, "and we were glad they were going to help us. I informed the drivers about the fascists and advised them not to go ahead, they'd be blasted to hell. As the cars turned to move back a little way down the road, one of them was hit by a grenade and turned over on its side."

"We had no escape, so we remained hidden in the pine scrub — eight of us, at the side of the road. From there I succeeded in sending back two light guns in our possession. I remained with the men, waiting. Escape was impossible."

It was a matter of minutes, at this point, before all were surrounded and taken prisoners. Among the fascists were four Moors who, according to the young soldiers taken with Cooper, wanted to execute Cooper without delay. They were prevented from doing so by the young Spanish recruits in the fascist group, who vigorously opposed the killing of any prisoner. All were relieved of their arms, and Cooper was stripped of his possessions: pistol, wallet, camera, pen — they left only his handkerchief.

All eight prisoners were then taken to another hill, where all the fascist forces, including their commanding officers were gathered. Lt. Cooper was brought before these officers for questioning and information.

"And I gave them information", says Cooper, "all they wanted, and more. I told them we had Gandesa, and that by tomorrow (July 27th) we'd be in Calaceite. When they asked where our forces were, I answered, 'Way ahead', pointing to the west. 'How many?' they questioned. Without hesitation I answered, 'Five army corps'. They were evidently impressed, and pretty worried. As for ourselves, I told them, we're just patrolling the area through which the main bodies of our troops had already passed. There were hundreds of small patrols like ours, some larger, some smaller, cleaning up this conquered section. I told them."

"Although they seemed crestfallen, they were still determined to go ahead, to push onward and break through our lines and rejoin their own forces. All of them had rifles, hand grenades, and there was a light machine gun among their arms."

"During that afternoon and evening, we developed friendly conversations with two of their officers who had friends in New York and Chicago, so they said, and with some of their soldados as we discussed generally the conditions on the fascist side and on our side, and they were surprised to know that our soldados receive as much in wages as their officers, and that, in addition, we didn't have to pay for our own food."

"That night, which we spent with them as prisoners, was very strenuous, as some of our forces attacked the hill we were on; but our fascist captors maintained complete silence, and so our forces, figuring nobody was there, withdrew. Throughout the night



MAKING MAPS
Dibujando mapas

our group was guarded by six Moors.

"The following morning (July 27th) the fascists were in a more or less panicky state. Their observers had reported sighting many of our troops on a number of adjacent hills. When the avion came over, I decided to add to the effect of my previous words of the day before. 'Don't worry', I told them about the avion — 'they're ours, Loyalist'."

"Added to their growing strain and panic were the facts that they had been three days without food, eating only nuts and whatever fruit they could pick off the trees, and they had been out of contact with other of their forces for a similarly long period of time. In addition, all of them were pretty well exhausted."

"Finally, while we waited to see what would happen, their six officers held a conference, at which they decided their game was up, that their safest course of action would be to turn themselves over to us, and follow us. By this time there were 14 of us — myself and thirteen of my men, who had been taken singly and in groups of two at different points not far from where our original eight had been surrounded."

"It was dark most of the time we were with them, and they were pretty well scattered. It was not until we marched them to Brigade headquarters that I discovered there were 208 of them. Among them were the six officers and 19 sargentos."

"I didn't know until that minute", added Lt. Cooper, "that we had taken so many prisoners."

Cooper asked that one final point be made clear: "My kids", he said, referring to the young Spanish quintas in his company, "could have escaped or made their path easier many times, especially when we were being threatened with death. But they didn't, because they figured that would mean my death. That's loyalty — and that shows the kind of army we have!"

S. F.



PRISONERS being brought in by our men. Our 35th Division alone captured more than 3500 prisoners in the recent Ebro push



Prisioneros capturados por nuestras tropas. Nuestra 35 división ha capturado más de 3500 prisioneros

WAITING

We moved down off the hill in single file, the taste of breakfast still in our mouths — coffee, chocolate, ham and sardines, bread, marmalade and plums. There was a comfortable weight inside us, and there was, too, the inevitable nervousness, the pre-action tension that heightens the senses and makes a man take notice of things he never noticed before... a lizard sticking his head out of a crack in the dry, volcanic rock; a broken shoelace, a streak of dirt on another man's face. There was to be a mass attack on X....; it was to start early in the morning; two divisions were moving through parallel barrancos toward the town.

The barranco was narrow at the top, wide at the bottom. Ahead of us, our 59th Battalion had engaged the enemy; they were out of sight ahead of us, but the machine guns were singing their crisp, metallic song, the rifle bullets snapped over our heads as we waited, flattened on the dry earth, seeking cover below the terraces, behind the olive trees. You could look around and see men flattening visib ly into the ground, disappearing, their rifles canted against the natural parapets ahead. A runner would appear from below, dash from tree to tree, to reappear later, sweating. The sun rose straight above us, hanging heavy over our heads, beating on our backs and heads. There was no water as we waited for the word to go ahead, wondering how long it would be before the word came, what would happen when it came, how much opposition we would meet at the mouth of the barranco as we emerged. You could hear our Hotchkiss talking from the hill on our left; a heavy Maxim on the right. There was avion overhead, seeking — finding? We waited for it to find us; we watched its impersonal evolutions overhead, bank and turn, soar and glide, looking for something it should find in the course of time. We watched the stretchers coming back.

It is possible to watch the stret-

chers coming back in an entirely impersonal fashion. You note the severity of the wound; you try to catch a glimpse of the face; you think, 'There I go, back to the hospital' and you think, 'Does it hurt much?'. One by one the stretchers came back from the line, weaving between the twisted olive trunks, moving back up the slope of the barranco, the camilleros' backs exposed to the enemy fire. You could not envy them their jobs, their lives dependent on and weighted with the weight and the life of the comrades they were carrying. You watched them, thinking, 'There I go', or 'How soon will it be?' and 'Will it be bad?'. You wondered how things were going ahead, and how soon the word would come, and you wondered where our artillery was, and how soon it would be before it opened up, and where was the promised avion. You listened for it.

You woke with astonishment to find that you had been dozing in the sun: the heat and the dust and the thirst, the tension — all had combined to undo your senses and relax your vigilance, and the body snatched at the rest it needed, the rest it had foregone during the hard days of action that had gone before. You woke with a start, wondering how you could have possibly gone to sleep in the face of the fire — you felt a sickening sensation at what you had done, like a man who has come safely through an accident and then suddenly recalls how close he had been to death and feels his guts turn over in his body. Vigilance returns, and with it the heightened sensibility, the tension. Someone is eating a tin of sardines nearby; you can smell the warm olive-oil.

All day, in the stifling heat and the thirst we waited, the sun pounding our backs, the hammering song of the Hotchkiss loud from the left slope of the barranco. 'The damned fool!' we thought, 'Can't he shut up for a while? He'll ruin the bore, he'll give his position away!'. Dusk brought

the order to advance — and it brought other things as well. The unbearable tension snapped; the parched lips were wet with the moist tongue. Over the right slope of the barranco, there came sailing, precisely spaced and beautifully colored in the failing light, tracer bullets like small balls of pink fire. They soared across the valley into the Hotchkiss position, but the gun continued to fire. From behind us the enemy artillery awoke, and the shells came over—

you could count them as they came. And then you couldn't count them; they fell in no regular order, but with an almost conscious knowledge of where we were — to left, to right, ahead, behind, crashing like enormous garbage cans heaved by gigantic men. The broken earth fell on us, the cracked rock spattered against the unbroken stone of the hillsides. We were moving forward, and the deepening night was loud in our ears.

ALVAH C. BESSIE



ON THE GANDESA FRONT

En el frente de Gandesa



TELEPHONE communications dugout

Chabola de comunicaciones



SHOVING OFF

Un empujón



BRITISH BATTALION comrade sighting the new trench mortar

El Batallón 59 al otro lado del Ebro

El Batallón 59 actuó con la misma decisión y entusiasmo que sus hermanos los demás Batallones de la Brigada, colocándose en el mismo paralelo en cuanto a combatividad y esfuerzos.

A pesar de haber tenido serios contratiempos e irreparables pérdidas en la estructura de sus cuadros de mando y Comisarios, supo alcanzar todos los objetivos fijados a su cuidado. Entre las pérdidas más sentidas y más necesitadas, figuran la de su Comandante-Jefe Capitán Marc Millman, la del Comisario de la Compañía de Ametralladoras, camarada Arnold Reid y la del camarada ayudante del Comisario del Batallón, Efraim Guasch, muertos por bala enemiga en el cumplimiento de su deber; pero a pesar de estas enormes pérdidas, consideradas así por la valla de estos camaradas desaparecidos, el Batallón llegó a la meta, cumpliendo con disciplina, abnegación y coraje en todo su conjunto, desde el último de sus soldados hasta el primero de sus Jefes y Comisarios.

A continuación leeréis los pasajes más importantes relatados por los Comisarios de sus diferentes Compañías, que empiezan desde nuestra salida del campamento y terminan en NUESTRO VICTORIOSO AVANCE. Así como un juicio crítico con respecto a las operaciones en que tomaron parte.

PRIMERA COMPAÑÍA

«En esta última operación en que ha participado nuestro Glorioso Ejército Popular, se puede decir que la actuación de todas nuestras Unidades, ha sido brillante. Pero me limitaré exclusiva-

mente a reseñar la actuación de la «primera Compañía» del 59 Batallón de la XV Brigada Internacional en la que soy Comisario.

Nuestra Compañía supo recoger en toda su amplitud las enseñanzas que nos dio la maniobra del paso del río, en la cual se distinguió por su rapidez en los movimientos y comprensión absoluta por parte de Cabos, Sargentos y Jefes de Sección, de su responsabilidad como mandos inferiores.

Llega el momento de iniciar nuestra ofensiva y nuestra Compañía comprende y aplica en el acto las enseñanzas recogidas en la retaguardia. El paso del río se realiza con la misma rapidez y ecuanimidad con que se hizo la maniobra. Todo salió a pedir de boca. Entonces de acuerdo con el plan de operaciones se inicia la marcha para la captura de Ascó, la que se realiza sin dificultad alguna, haciendo la primera Compañía 25 prisioneros. La primera Compañía dio, en la toma de Ascó, un ejemplo de disciplina y obediencia a los mandos, pues después de ordenar el Comandante de la Compañía, Claudio Villanueva, que un pelotón entrara en el pueblo para hacerse cargo de los prisioneros, el resto quedó fuera del pueblo, organizado, bajo la celosa vigilancia de cabos, sargentos y oficiales, evitando de esta manera que los aviones fascistas que bombardeaban el pueblo, nos causaran bajas innecesarias; como sucedió a fuerzas de otra Brigada que se entretenía dentro del pueblo en cuestiones sin importancia e impropias del momento.

Continuamos nuestra marcha a lograr nuestros objetivos, que era ir sobre Gandesa y cooperar



HEADQUARTERS OF THE 59th BATTALION on the Gandesa front. Captain Mark Millman, center, just before he was killed directing his battalion in action

Estado Mayor del batallón 59 en el frente de Gandesa. El capitán Mark Millman, centro, muerto dirigiendo su batallón

con el corte de la carretera al sitio de dicho pueblo.

Al 59 Batallón se le mandó posesionarse de un barranco donde fueron desplegadas sus fuerzas para iniciar el ataque sobre Gandesa. La primera Compañía tenía la misión de enlazar por el flanco derecho con la 23 Brigada y por el flanco izquierdo con la tercera Compañía. La misión fue brillantemente cumplida demostrando nuestra Compañía una gran moral, pues a pesar del fuego intensísimo de artillería y de una gran preparación de morteros sobre el barranco que ocupaban nuestras fuerzas, a pesar de la cantidad de bajas habidas, nuestra Compañía cada vez que se le dio orden de atacar, ATACO.

Aquí me convencí yo, de la alta moral de los soldados y mandos de nuestra Compañía y que han sabido los veteranos recoger las experiencias de otros combates y los reclutas igualar y en algunos casos superar en moral, disciplina y heroísmo a los veteranos.

El Comisario de la Compañía,
M. DEL PESO.

SEGUNDA COMPAÑÍA

«Al cruzar el Ebro con orden de atacar el pueblo de Ascó, desplegados sus hombres, dominan sus alturas, donde la patrulla de exploración sorprende cinco fascistas, les damos el alto cuatro se hacen prisioneros y el otro se mata; se oyen voces: ¡Sanitarios! Acuden y se trata de un herido fascista, colocado en la camilla, se cura y con voz apacada decía: no matarme, soy inocente... a sus palabras contesté: Nosotros, los españoles que luchamos contra Hitler y Mussolini, no matamos al prisionero, ni lo abandonamos cuando está herido, a

pesar de haber sido nuestro enemigo como lo estás viendo.

El último pelotón pasaba desplegado por donde estaban los nueve prisioneros que se hicieron, quienes nos miraban sorprendidos aún, y un soldado nuestro les dijo: «Véis, no somos rusos, sino que somos trabajadores españoles quizá como vosotros, que luchamos contra los invasores y por la independencia de nuestra patria.»

Después de una dura acción, fuimos a una, a hacer un relevo. Por la noche, fuimos atacados con bombas de mano por el enemigo; la cota la defendían hombres nuevos, camaradas que por primera vez manejaban las bombas de mano; fue un momento de peligro, pero de emoción, al menos lo fue para el mando, al verlos con serenidad y destreza lanzar las bombas. A los veinte minutos renace la calma y en el silencio se oyen los ayes lejanos de los heridos fascistas que corrían hacia sus posiciones. Los muchachos me dicen: «¿Qué, Comisario, ¿hemos estado bien? Sí muchachos! A vigilar, que pronto nos relevarán.

El Comisario de la segunda Compañía,

M. RAMIREZ

TERCERA COMPAÑÍA

Un activista

— ¡Venga, aprisa!, va gritando el Capitán Castillo.

Hay orden de ataque, tenemos que entrar en el barranco... de la Muerte, según los muchachos lo han bautizado; es necesario tomar la cota desde la cual el enemigo enfila todo el barranco. La Compañía va pasando rápidamente, uno a uno, distanciados. El enemigo se da cuenta de nuestro movimiento y abre fuego de arma



DELEGATES from Barcelona trade unions and People's Front organizations addressing the 59th Battalion during one of the Battalion's fiestas

Delegados de los sindicatos de Barcelona y de organizaciones del Frente Popular dirigiéndose a los camaradas del 59 batallón durante una fiesta del mismo

automática, casi al mismo tiempo que los morteros también entran en acción. Hay algunas bajas. Es tan intenso el fuego, que nos obliga a paralizar la acción. Toda la fuerza tiene que replegarse a una pared, a un ángulo muerto para guarecerse de la metralla. Toda la sección ha pasado 150 metros más adelante que el resto de la fuerza, pero como los demás, está también paralizada. Fuego de ametralladora en el frente, en su retaguardia, los morteros... De pronto un cuerpo avanza arrastrándose por el suelo. Llega hasta nosotros; es Feichman Bolialao, va cargado de cantimploras. Le preguntan dónde va.

— Los muchachos tienen sed — nos contesta —. Vóy a por agua.

Al poco rato estaba de vuelta y volvía a entrar en el barranco de la misma manera que salió.

El bravo muchacho, no encontró peligro para que sus camaradas pudieran beber agua.

El Comisario de la tercera Compañía

MAURI

CUARTA COMPAÑÍA

En esta operación la cuarta Compañía demostró lo que vale la instrucción y el buen trabajo político. Ya que siendo como era una compañía recién formada, y en la que participaban muchos camaradas jóvenes que no tenían la experiencia del combate, se hizo uso más que nada de la instrucción recibida, unida, naturalmente, a la experiencia de los mandos.

Así, pues, nuestra Compañía, que mostró su mayor brillantez en el ataque, donde dió pruebas de valor y entusiasmo, señalando como hechos notorios el del soldado Pérez, un camarada joven que murió alentando a sus camaradas con el grito de «Adelante, camaradas», y los sargentos Vicente Pelegay Muro y González, que, al frente de sus hombres alcanzan los objetivos que el mando les señaló, manteniendo siempre el control y disciplina en

su pelotón. Y en general, la mayoría de la Compañía que se comportó como el momento lo exigía.

Los golpes enseñan a los que no quieren seguir los consejos que se les dan. Los hombres de nuestra Compañía tomarán buena nota de ello. Allí donde los hombres avanzaban ocultos: uno a uno, el enemigo no lograba hacernos bajas, mientras que los que no seguían estas reglas, bien caro les costaba. Por esto decimos que estas batallas del Ebro nos han legado muchas cosas buenas.

A más de lo que ha representado para la República, tenemos un rico caudal de experiencias que en los próximos combates emplearemos.

El Comisario de la cuarta Compañía,

JOSE REAL

COMPAÑÍA DE AMETRALLADORAS

Era una noche del mes de julio; nuestros soldados dormían tranquilamente, cuando una corneta de este Batallón tocó llamada. Entonces soldados, oficiales, sub-oficiales y Comisarios nos levantamos, cogimos las máquinas y nos pusimos en marcha. La marcha fué larga; el cansancio era inmenso, pero a pesar de ello nuestra moral combativa se mantenía bien alta, dispuestos a continuar hacia adelante si era necesario. Descansamos por el día y esa noche caminamos y caminamos, llegando a las cercanías del río Ebro. Descansamos dos días más, cuando recibimos la orden de pasar el Ebro.

Nuestros soldados, sin poner reparos, todo lo contrario, con la alegría reflejada en sus caras, suben a las barcas, embarcamos todos y así, aun cuando la aviación fascista nos ametrallaba desesperadamente, nosotros continuábamos deslizándonos sobre la corriente, impulsados por los golpes de remo de nuestros barqueros.

Todo el Batallón pasado, se nos asigna tomar los focos que detrás del pueblo de Ascó tenían los fas-



A FORMER COMMANDING POST OF THE 59th
Puesto de mando anterior del 59 batallón

cistas, donde una batetía había estado haciendo fuego durante nuestro desembarco; pues, bien, lo tomamos.

Dominados los montes de Ascó, continuamos camino de Gandesa; sin encontrar resistencia avanzamos hasta cerca de la carretera Gandesa-Villalba. Nuestra infantería ataca y nosotros emplazamos nuestras máquinas donde nuestro Teniente Jefe de la Compañía nos había ordenado y ¡Corramos la carretera!

Después nos relevan. Ahora, nuestro objetivo es el cementerio de Gandesa; nuestros soldados, cabos, sargentos, atentos y obedientes como un solo hombre a nuestro Jefe camarada Diego Ortiz, nada. Es de día, la artillería y morteros extranjeros, invasores al servicio de Franco, nos hacían grandes bajas; se da la orden a la segunda máquina de emplazamiento a la derecha de aquel barranco. Los morteros caían muy espesos, pero aquella máquina amenazada muy seriamente en dos ocasiones, conservó su sitio. Ni la artillería, ni los morteros, ni los antitanques fueron suficientes para desalojar a nuestros valientes soldados, quienes supieron defender cada uno el palmo de terreno a su cuidado.

Se da la misma orden a la tercera máquina, la cual cumple con su misión; la primera, cuarta y quinta máquinas protegiendo a la infantería, también estuvieron en sus puestos, cumpliendo así, todos los combatientes de la Compañía de Ametralladoras acompañados de sus mandos.

Tenemos una fe inquebrantable porque sabemos cuál es nuestro deber y estamos dispuestos antes de ceder un palmo de terreno a hacer todos los sacrificios que sean necesarios.

EL COMISARIO DE LA COMPAÑÍA DE AMETRALLADORAS

MARIANO CAÑEVERAS

Y así termina la jornada en que ha participado el 59 Batallón, cuyos efectivos soldados, cabos,

sargentos, oficiales, jefes y Comisarios, todos, han dado una muestra de coraje, heroísmo y abnegación los unos y valentía, capacidad y control los otros. Jornada en la que sólo han intervenido fusiles, magistralmente usados por nuestro Ejército, y cañones, antitanques, morteros, toda clase de armas automáticas y grandes masas de aviación usados por el enemigo para defenderse y contraatacar.

Todos nuestros combatientes de este Batallón, camaradas españoles, veteranos unos y de reciente ingreso los otros, camaradas andaluces, valencianos, catalanes de todas las regiones, unidos a los camaradas internacionales y en mayor número los camaradas cubanos han hecho una gran labor que ha dado por resultado el afirmar más la unidad de nuestras fuerzas y demostrar capacidad bastante para continuar victoriosos en la segunda fase de nuestra consigna ¡ATACAR!



COMRADES of the 59th firing a trench mortar on the Gandesa front

Camaradas del 59 batallón disparando con un mortero en el frente de Gandesa



The 59th Battalion on parade
El batallón 59 en desfile

LETTERS from HOME

A Nurse Writes About A Returned Volunteer

Dear Comrade C...: I hope that this letter reaches you. I wanted to write you something about Joe. Perhaps you have not heard yet that he was killed last month, in England, in a lorry crash.

I came back here to Chicago three days ago, after a long absence organizing Spanish committees, looking forward to delayed letters from him since I had not had my mail forwarded. But instead of the letters from him, there was one from his family, such a brave one, ending with 'Success to our cause', a newspaper clipping and a postcard of the cemetery where his ashes are buried. I was completely stunned. If he had still been in Spain... well, one is always prepared a bit. But not when he was safely back in England.

I have been so busy since I came back. First the speaking tour all over the States until the first of June and then being organizer for new medical branches in the Middle West. The only personal life or pleasure I have had was the mail from him and writing to him and thinking about how he would be proud and happy because of the success I was having in increasing support for Spain. And that is snatched suddenly from me. I shall have to become adjusted and not think a dozen times a day that experiences must be described to Joe, and laughed over or scowled over together. His letters were a great inspirational help, breathing militant confidence and perseverance. I shall miss them.

There is only one way to endure such a loss. More intensified effort for the cause that was his life. New Spanish Aid committees will be the monuments that I shall build him. And after the work, all my life remembering his singleness of purpose, there will be similar wreaths to his memory. He would prefer such tribute to tears and grieving.

You were fond of him too, I know. He was a good comrade. He did not waste his living hours, so though we are sad that another fighter has been lost to the movement, we can be proud that he lived and fought well, and that we knew him.

If you are ever in London and you go to see his parents, try to find time to write me about it. If you should ever go to his grave, say Salud, camarada, for me....

Hasta la vista, C....

Salud y Victoria.

F. M.

PLANES BROUGHT DOWN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE EBRO OFFENSIVE

It is more than a month since the crossing of the Ebro by the Republican troops. During the offensive the enemy have constantly used their air force, but owing to the efficiency of the Republican gunners and pilots, many enemy planes have been brought down. Below are some statistics of the planes brought down on the Ebro Front during the past month:

BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERIES

Bombers:
Junker 86, 2; Heinkel 111, 3; Savoia 81, 2. Total: 7.

Light Bombers:
Dornier 17, 1; Fiat B. B. 20, 1; Breda, 4.... Total: 6.

Chasers:
Unidentified plane fell on enemy lines, 1... Total: 1.

Total: 14

BY INFANTRY FIRE

Bombers:
Junker trimotors, 4..... Total: 4.

Chasers:
Messerschmidt, 1..... Total: 1.

Total: 5

IN AIR BATTLES

Bombers:
Heinkel Bimotors, 7..... Total: 7.

Chasers:
Messerschmidt, 18; Fiat, 47..... Total: 65.

Total: 72

GRAND TOTAL:

Bombers.....	18
Light Bombers.....	6
Chasers.....	66
TOTAL.....	91

Eleven pilots, only two of whom were Spaniards, were captured. For our part, we lost 20 machines (2 bombers, 2 observation planes and 15 chasers). One of these was brought down by anti-aircraft fire, and eighteen in air battles. One chaser, whose pilot was mortally wounded in a battle, crashed on landing at its aerodrome and was destroyed.

Spanish Consul to Philadelphia Greets Americans in the I. B. Before Leaving for U. S. A.

August 26th, 1938.

TO THE AMERICANS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES:

During my recent brief stay in Barcelona, I was on the point of visiting you in order to receive any messages you wished delivered to your relatives and friends in the United States where I am returning to resume my post as Consul for Spain.

For unforeseen reasons I was obliged at the last moment to cancel a visit which would have given me great pleasure and honor.

In America we all follow day by day your splendid actions. The American people realizes that by fighting for the victory of the Spanish Republic you are defending the interests of democracy of your own country. Every antifascist heart is beating with you.

I wish you all the best of luck and salud!

Viva la República!

Viva la 15 Brigada Internacional!

(Signed) JUAN PEINADO

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Pollitt Impressed by Ebro Victories in Visit to Brigade

Harry Pollitt, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain, paid the British Battalion of the 15th Brigade on Sunday, August 28th, a surprise visit. Harry is always more than welcomed by the comrades of the Brigade, in particular those of the British Battalion. This visit marked the fifth time that Harry has come to Spain since the war has begun. He was accompanied by Peter Kerrigan.

As Harry explained in his talk to the British Battalion, he came to visit the comrades of the Battalion, and those who are in hospitals as a result of wounds suffered in the Ebro drive, so as to be able to report to their families and friends back home and to also report to the coming British Trades Union Congress. He brought with him, as usual, cigarets and chocolates.

After having crossed the Ebro over a recently constructed bridge, Harry called on the commanding staff of the 35th Division where he was greeted very warmly. He spoke in detail with Major Merino, 25 year old former university student and commander of the Division, of the recent Ebro operations.

When Pollitt asked Commander Merino as to what were the important factors which led to the recent successes, Merino replied without hesitation: 'Organization and audacity on the part of our troops'. Merino explained further that our infantry went into action equipped only with rifles, ridiculously few machine guns, but with great enthusiasm for the attack. It charged against a Franco army backed by artillery, cavalry and aviation. The ability of our soldiers overcame the inequality in arms, surprised the enemy and in one day advanced as far as the commanding posts of the fascist division. 'If Chamberlain', Merino added to Pollitt, 'did not put so many obstacles in our way and permitted us to purchase sufficient arms, we'd lick Franco and his foreign legions in a short time'.

After having lunch with the 15th Brigade commanding staff, Harry went immediately to the British Battalion where he talked individually with many of the comrades. In the late afternoon, he gave a clear picture as to what is going on in the international political scene to an attentive Battalion, gathered under the trees in the vineyards, in spite of the constant presence of the enemy aviation overhead.



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Organ of the international brigades



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CÓMO SE DEFIENDE LA INDEPENDENCIA DE ESPAÑA

En orden especial del día 28 de agosto el Jefe de la Brigada y el Comisario, dicen lo siguiente:

«Digna de todo elogio, ha sido la destacada actuación de estos últimos días, del Batallón Lincoln, número 58.

Mandos, Comisarios y Soldados, han rivalizado en valor, im-pidiendo con su heroísmo que el enemigo haya podido avanzar un solo paso.

A pesar de la poca protección de las trincheras y del enorme fuego de artillería y mortero, que el enemigo les ha hecho, como desahogo de su impotencia para reducir su tenaz resistencia, han rechazado en todo momento al enemigo infligiéndole gran cantidad de bajas con su certero fuego.

Su moral ha venido aumentando día a día, renovando los laure-

les conseguidos y mostrándose dignos sustitutos de la 11 División, que nos ha precedido en este Sector y que tantos elogios ha conseguido por su actuación.

Así es como se defiende España y se ejecutan las órdenes del Mando. La orden era de resistencia y el Batallón Lincoln comprendiendo su importancia, la ha llevado a cabo de forma magnífica.

No cabe destacar nombres, pues habría que copiar la lista entera del Batallón. La resistencia opuesta al enemigo figurará al lado de las grandes gestas de la Brigada.

A los Mandos, a los Comisarios y a todos los Soldados del Batallón, se les felicita efusivamente, en esta orden especial, debiendo servir de ejemplo su actuación a los demás Batallones.

Asimismo merecen mencionarse los Batallones 59 y 60, que han prestado una valiosa ayuda al Lincoln, con sus fuegos de protección y apoyo, y al 57, que antes de que el Mando diera órdenes de prepararse, se ofreció para su intervención. Su jefe herido, en el momento en que el enemigo atacaba las posiciones del 58, no quiso abandonar su puesto de mando, digno ejemplo de nuestros Jefes.»

Nada queda que añadir. Los elogios nunca han sido más merecidos que en este caso. El enemigo habrá comprendido a costa de muchas bajas, que por donde está la XV Brigada, está prohibido el paso para ellos.

No obstante hemos de prepararnos y acentuar la obra de mejoramiento de fortificaciones y de refugios contra la artillería

Nuestra consigna de hoy continúa siendo resistir, y la mejor manera de llevarla a cabo son buenas fortificaciones en las que se estrellen los avances enemigos y desde las que a cubierto de sus tiros se les pueda infligir duro castigo.

Los activistas tienen aquí una ocasión de demostrar la importancia de su misión. Consolidar las posiciones, pues con ello se disminuirá al mismo tiempo el número de nuestras bajas.

Escribid a los camaradas heridos del Lincoln, dándoles cuenta de la felicitación y haciéndoles saber que su comportamiento heroico ha sido reconocido por todos.

Mayor,
JOSÉ ANTONIO VALLEDOR
Comisario de Brigada,
JOHN GATES

CADA ACTIVISTA UN SOLDADO MODELO



CADA ACTIVISTA UN CAMPEÓN DE UNIDAD

Dibujo por Antonio Pujol

FASCIST OFFENSIVE CRUMPLES BEFORE HEROIC RESISTANCE OF XV BRIGADE

«Death Sector» is the name given by the fascists to the territory in the immediate vicinity of Corbera. The name is fully justified. The best fascist shock-troops are here being driven to their doom, their ranks decimated, their fate sealed by the unconquerable resistance of the Republican Army. Their concentration of artillery of a hitherto unheard of scale, their hundreds of bombing planes, their heavy tanks and machine guns mounted on motorcycles beat vainly against the iron rock of Republican defense. The mechanized force of the Italian and German invaders is matched here with the superb morale and antifascist en-



CAPTAIN DUNBAR

thusiasm of the defending forces. They have to purchase every inch of the ground at a price that leaves their ranks decimated, at an effort which requires them to squander their best available manpower.

A graphic story of the epic resistance put up by the Republican Army is told below in the excerpts taken from the diary of Captain R. Smrcka, Chief of Information of the XV Brigade. These excerpts deal with last week's fighting and tell the story the XV Brigade has played in this important action. Names of certain units and locations are omitted for obvious military reasons.

September, 6.

We are standing by. Hectic night. The enemy continues its pressure accompanied by tremendous concentration of fire. Counted more than 100 fascist planes in the air. Front has been boiling since dawn.

Finally our orders. We are to move in immediately to prevent a threatened breach. Within twenty minutes the Brigade is on its way. To get there faster we are using camions, eight trucks going back and forth on the shell swept high way picking up the marching troops and depositing them close to the line.

I am leading one of the Batta-

Brigade rushes into breach and stops fascist advance—key position dominating Gandesa-Corbera highway re-occupied under intense artillery and aerial bombardment—tanks forced to retreat in panic—fascist plane brought down by infantry fire—Captains Dunbar and Smrcka wounded by artillery, refuse to be evacuated—fascists suffer enormous casualties and re-name hill «Cota of Widows, Orphans and Sweethearts».

lions into position. On the way back I am caught in an artillery barrage. I am calculating chances. Just a day previous we had a discussion on the probabilities of going through an action without stopping anything and I feel I am about due to get it again—I have been too lucky for too long.

A shell lands close by. The explosion covers me with dust. My runner is wounded but I am all in one piece. Another explosion and a sharp pain cuts through my right thigh. The flesh is cut rather badly and it hurts with a sharp stabbing pain but I am glad. I was worried that I'd be afraid and now I am glad that I am not afraid at all. I dress my wound and have it re-dressed later. They want to evacuate me but I refuse and stay on.

The enemy pressure increases. Shells are bursting all over and the fascist planes are continuously overhead strafing and bombing. There is considerable excitement in the Staff. The troops of another unit, unable to hold out any longer, gave way permitting the fascists to advance. The Lincoln Battalion is rushed into the breach and succeeds in stopping the fascists. A small advance on a narrow sector—this has been the result so far of the much heralded «decisive» Franco offensive on the Ebro.

September, 8.

Our Brigade is in line. I don't share the opinion that this is going to be the last attempt of Franco. I am sure Franco will persist in his efforts disregarding the fact that his plans have miscarried. If we keep on resisting in the same manner as we have done until now, the Ebro will mark the line of our victory. Franco's troops will bleed white here if he continues to gain every little advance at such tremendous cost of men and material.

At 14 hours the enemy starts a new attack following an intense artillery preparation. I go to the lines to lead the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion into position. I hold a meeting with the officers while John Gates, Brigades Commissar, meets with the Commissars. We are under fire and a shell lands close by the Commissar's meeting, wounding one. It's a light wound and the meeting continues. My wound aches from too much walking, but this is not the time to worry about it.

The Mack-Paps go forward in a brilliant attack reoccupying our

previous positions that had been taken by the enemy.

The enemy artillery concentrates on the Mack-Paps but they continue their advance, although the promised flank support fails to materialize. They advance about one kilometer and reoccupy Hill—one of the most important heights dominating the Gandesa-Corbera highway.

The Brigade is doing an excellent job. The Lincoln, the 50th and the Mack-Paps have all re-occupied the positions designated in a brilliant manner and are holding fast. The British Battalion is in reserve, one company reinforcing the other troops. The fascist attack with tanks, but we hold our ground. Four tanks were turned back by rifle fire by our infantry.

September, 9

It looks like nice weather today.

A 15's shell lands right in front of the Brigade Staff. Three deserters from the fascist lines are brought to me for interrogation and they are rather interesting, different from the usual «we only receive one box of sardines a week» type.

Their first answer to the routine question «How did you get over here» is very interesting. They came over through the «Cotas de las viudas, huérfanos y novias» is their answer. (The hills of the Widows, Orphans and Sweethearts).

This is a new one to us. We have never heard of these hills. They explain. These are the hills where our positions lie. They lost so many men attacking them that the name became natural.

One of the deserters was orderly to the Battalion Commander and knows the fascist general Varon quite well. Both the Battalion Commander and the General were in the habit of discussing things quite openly in his presence.

He, too, repeated the often told story that the fascist officers are telling all men that the Reds kill all their prisoners or feed them to the lions in the Barcelona Zoo. When jokingly asked «Suppose we were to shoot you» he answered with a broad grin:

«That would be the first truth Franco has ever told».

According to their story when their Battalion received its march orders and they found they were going to Gandesa a number of men immediately deserted and their Battalion Commander took suddenly ill.

When they reached Alcañiz, the second Commander of the Battalion took sick also and there were more attempts at desertion. When they arrived near the front, the third Battalion Commander took sick also which left them without a Captain. A Lieutenant took over command of the Battalion, but when he was told that his Battalion was to attack the Hills of the Widows, Orphans and Sweethearts, he refused to obey saying Franco himself couldn't lead his men to attack that position for which he was immediately arrested.

The fellow was very intelligent and gave a detailed account of General Yague's arrest and the demonstration by the officers which led to his reinstatement. He gave an amusing account of Franco's diminishing prestige and the existing sentiment in the rear towards the Italian and German invaders. Instead of «Viva Franco!» and



CAPTAIN SMRCKA with his scouts. — El capitán Smrcka con sus exploradores



SNIPER on the Gandesa front
Cartero tirador en el frente de Gandesa

«Arriba España!» they would shout maliciously:

«Viva Hitler!» or «Viva Mussolini!» with some going so far as shouting «Viva Japón!» and «Viva Ethiopia!». The fascists are very sore about this but they can't do anything to stop it because they always meet with the innocent explanation «They are our allies, aren't they?».

They told about the great discontent existing among the Moors which often results in open insubordination. The officers attribute it to agitators who go around the Moors saying that they will never see Morocco again, that they, too, will die here as all the other Moors did who came here before them and once they are dead the officers will go through their pockets and take all their money away from them.

The Moors are very touchy on this subject since most of them enlisted only for six months or a year to return to their native country afterwards and live a life of ease on the money they earned. While a fascist soldier gets only 50 céntimos a day these Moors get five to ten pesetas which is a large amount of money for them.

September, 10.

Spent all day at Observation Post. Shells landing close by all day long. My leg throbs with pain. I ought to have gone to the Hospital.

The Mack-Paps made another attack which lead them into a salient threatening the enemy's flank.

Eight Heinkels came over and dropped bombs but only five of them returned. Two white points on the horizon slowly develop into parachutes. Little later men from the English Battalion bring a crying fascist aviator to me. He is a Lieutenant, 23 years old and he is crying like a child. He was shot down by rifle fire and each of our Battalions is claiming the honor. His name is Juan Crespi, the scion of a very wealthy family in Mallorca, a sport flyer before the rebellion, one of the very few

Spanish flyers on the fascist side. He expects to be tortured and killed on the spot. His tears slowly dry up under the courteous interrogation and he is profuse in his gratitude for the treatment he received.

The Mack-Paps advance kept entire fascist front from advancing, the threat to their flank paralyzed their movement.

A shell landed right in the midst of Brigade Headquarters lightly wounding Captain Malcolm Dunbar, Chief of Staff, and about eight others. It was a 15.5 shell, Dunbar received about 15 fragments in his face, chest leg but refuses to be evacuated and carries on. This is the fourth time he was wounded or is it the sixth? A good officer, Dunbar, he keeps calmly puffing on his cigarette while his wounds are being dressed.

September, 11.

The flying activity again intensifies. Our aviators work well despite their numerical inferiority. The routine and long training of the German and Italian flyers is more than made up by the enthusiasm and reckless courage of our young Spanish aviators.

If we had more planes or anti-aircraft guns we could easily stop or paralyze the enemy aircraft.

The enemy aviation is using a new type of explosive. Seems to be some kind of Oxygen compound. From my Observation Post I watched a Dornier 17-K drop some hundred kilogram bombs and the force of the explosion squarely hit me in the face although the bombs dropped a considerable distance away.

Our troops are used to aviation by now. But they keep coming 21-24 bombing planes at a time about 10-12 times a day. Savoia 81, Junkers 52-III, Heinkel 111, each squad capable of dropping 50,000 kilo of explosives. But good morale is still better than all the bombing planes in the world. The fascist bombers have a theoretical bombing capacity of 750 000 kilograms a day, but our morale is good...

EN LACES

RAFAEL

You know, when we got all those new Spanish recruits late in May, we looked at them and a lot of us thought «Hells Bells, look at the kindergarten broke loose», and it looked like we were right. Why, those kids—they didn't shave, some of'em would cry if you tried to transfer them from one squad to another; if you looked at them cross-eyed they'd holler for Mama. Baby-face! There were a lot of baby-faces among them, and the worst baby face I ever saw in Company I of the

that coconut head of his over the parapets, watching for movement from the Fascists' hill. The peepholes in our parapets were too small for him; he couldn't see well enough out of them. So he kept sticking his head and shoulders over the top and banging away with his rifle, which is as long as he is, and on one occasion he sat up on the sandbags to take better aim.

Don't ask me why they didn't pick him off; they've got pretty good snipers over, there too. I wouldn't know. But can you beat it? A young squirt like that? A babyface who ain't even dry behind the ears yet?

SAM SPILLER



Lincoln was this kid Rafael.

He says he's eighteen years old; I say he looks fourteen if he looks a day. He's not dry behind the ears; he never shaved; his spindly legs would go well with a hoop and a stick to roll the hoop; he talks all the time, day and night, you can't shut him up. Well, the made him a runner. Imagine that a little babyface like that, to make a runner out of him! Why hell that's a responsible job; that's a job for a guy with some maturity, who will know his duty and do it, who'll be able to stand up under a lot. You know what I mean? Well, you should know what I mean.

So what? So you live and learn. We of Company I learned a lot on top of that hill 666 in the Sierra de Pándols. And one of the things we learned again was never to judge a guy by what he looks like. That was a hill, boy, that was some hill; that was a hill to make strong men weep and gnash their teeth. And it showed us what young Rafael was made of, too.

It was his first time at the front (after all, he wasn't born with a rifle in his hand), and he could barely control his enthusiasm. He insisted on having a crack at the Fascists. It didn't make any difference what we said to him; we told him to keep his head down, but do you think he did? He didn't. Instead, he keeps popping



LOVELY MARIA VAZQUEZ, Santander girl in Barcelona, defies enemy aviation as she goes to the «Barceloneta» (Barcelona's beach, in the port area) during her hours off from work to take a dip into the blue Mediterranean

La hermosa MARIA VAZQUEZ, una muchacha de Santander en Barcelona, desafía la aviación enemiga y va a la «Barceloneta» (playa de Barcelona) en el área del puerto, para tomar un baño, en las horas de descanso en las azules aguas del Mediterráneo

120 A MINUTE

Men of the Lincoln are not likely soon to forget that hill in the Sierra de Pándols, which for purposes of military information was known as 666. No matter how long they live or how much modern warfare they may see, that hell-hole will remain in their memory, a nightmare come to life. They lost some of their best comrades there and they proved, to the satisfaction of Brigade, Division and possibly to themselves, exactly what sort of stuff they were made of.

Our introduction to the scene should have been a warning. God never made a more desolate stretch of terrain, and man never contributed more to its further desolation. From the main road, at night, we climbed for hours over broken rock; the men sweated and groaned under the weight of their equipment, their guns. As we climbed there was not a man who did not think: 'It's going to be tough getting food, water and munitions up here; it's going to be tough for the wounded.' Rock walls bordered the goat-trails that led to the wind-torn summits. Near the crest we came upon terrain that had been fought over, lost and recaptured by the famous 11th Division. Here they had withstood constant shelling; here the Fascist planes had rained incendiary bombs and, temporarily, driven our men off. It looked like a landscape on the moon — tumbled, crumbling rock, black and slippery; burnt-off shrubbery that caught our trouser-legs and tripped us up. We slipped and

fell, stumbled and cursed; there was a bitter wind and the smell of wood smoke.

Even before dawn it was possible to see that there was no cover here; there were no trees; there were no bushes; there were no natural cavities in the rock; the earth itself was stone — you could not dig in it. And there were no fortifications facing the enemy. The men of the 11th Division had done the best they could; they had scraped shallow trenches into the crest of the hill and they had erected stone parapets topped with a few sandbags. There were the lines we had to hold; and they were held. The men suffered from the sun's heat; from thirst; from nervous exhaustion. Many must have thought that the old saying that there is a limit to what flesh and blood can stand, was scarcely true. For there seemed, for those five days, to be no limit.

The first three days were relatively quiet; a little mortar fire, a little machine-gun, and the attack we made which did not attain its objective. It seems absurd to speak of an attack as being relatively quiet, but the men who went through it will agree that it was vastly preferable to what followed, with noon of the fourth day. At that time the Fascists, having set their guns and mortars, opened up. They opened their guns and the guns remained open for seven and a half hours, from noon to seven-thirty that night, they gave us everything they had, and it was plenty. Artillery and mor-



in the face of this barrage which fell wherever it pleased and which was unopposed, the men stayed put. They cared for their wounded; they stuck with their guns; they lay in their pitifully shallow fortifications and talked and smoked...

tars, big ones. There are those who say they prefer artillery to mortars, because you can't hear the mortars coming; well, you may have your choice; it matters relatively little. Our parapets were pounded; they had the range and they kept the range. As each moment followed the moment before it, they hammered our parapets from left to right and back again; they covered the back side of the hill; they covered the left and right flanks. Munitions and water had to run that gauntlet; stretcher bearers carried wounded men through that rain of fire that seemed to fall wherever it pleased. The Fascist gunners knew just where we were.

Hour after hour the shells and the mortars fell; the anti-tank guns hammered at our parapets.

The sand-bags fell in; the rocks tumbled; the men withdrew from one section of the trenches to another. And the man who says he did not want to run is a liar; but the men did not run. In the face of this barrage which fell wherever it pleased and which was unopposed, the men stayed put. They cared for their wounded; they stuck with their guns; they lay in their pitifully shallow fortifications and talked and smoked, waiting. Waiting for what? For the next shell, the next mortar, the next piece of whining shrapnel. They knew that these positions must be held; they knew the strategic value of these hills; that they dominated our objective; that if they should pass again into enemy hands, the enemy would possess positions from which he could shell our bridge heads across the Ebro and make communication with our rear impossible. And so the positions were held. And what is more, they were held the next day as well, when the enemy opened up again with a slightly less intense but considerably more concentrated and accurate fire. The shells and mortars were not landing at the rate of a hundred and twenty a minute, as they had the day before; they were falling more slowly, but with greater deliberation and more demoralizing effect. The Fascists were calling their shots; they seemed to take a devilish delight in hammering away at the same point on our line, and it hurt. It hurt in much the same way that a sore knee hurts when you clumsily bang it time and time again. But again, as the day before, they got nowhere. The night before, after the barrage lifted, they tried an attack, an attack that was pitiful, that was laughable. A few of them came forward; our men hurled grenades; the machine-guns spoke and the enemy withdrew. And thus they demonstrated again — as though it needed further demonstration — that against our infantry, their infantry is worthless. They demonstrated again how they have made their past



MACHINE-GUN position dominating Gandesa. The town of Gandesa can be faintly seen in the light background in front of the trees. Una AMETRALLADORA en posición de dominar Gandesa. La mencionada ciudad se ve vagamente al fondo, enfrente de los árboles.

gains in this war — that without their superiority of mechanized equipment they are licked.

For we licked them on Hill 666 as surely as though we had taken additional terrain. They hoped to blow us off that hill by sheer weight of flying steel. They had seen it work in the past — there wasn't an inch of that hill and its surrounding heights that was not pocked with shell-holes, that was not littered with broken shrapnel. They figured that if they hammered us hard enough we would withdraw; that through our broken lines their soft and unprotected infantry could then advance. Well, they hammered us; but it was not hard enough. And we did withdraw.

But when we withdrew we left, for our relief, a line of fortifications that was stronger than the

one that we had found; the parapets were rebuilt and strengthened; the sand-bags were replaced and added to; the hill called 666 (for purposes of military information) was still within our lines. And it is likely to remain so. For there seems to be no limit to what flesh and blood can stand: men can lie athirst in the broiling sun for days; men can carry food and water and munitions up precipitous grades for days; they can carry their wounded comrades down to safety; they can lie under a shower of howling steel and wait; wait and hold on. Because they know what they are doing, and why they are doing it. That's more than our enemy can say.

D. A. N.

LT. GODDARD AND MINUTO

The present campaign has presented several instances where our own men, greatly outnumbered, captured and disarmed, proceeded to turn their political guns on their captors with the result that the captors surrendered to the captives. If it weren't for the element of political alertness revealed by our comrades in these incidents, these narratives would be almost as funny as the old Charlie Chaplin gag. You remember, in the old silent film, 'Shoulder Arms', Charlie went out into No Man's Land and returned shortly after, leading 40 German prisoners. 'How did you do it?' asked the commanding officer. Charlie shrugged his shoulders, and lowered his eyes. 'Simple', he replied modestly — 'I surrounded them'.

A million movie-goers in the United States are still puzzled by this one-man encirclement, and perhaps an additional 100,000 who know their political oats, have several theories of their own. Perhaps the story of Brigade Chief of Operations, Lt. Howard Goddard, and his motorcyclist, Minuto, will throw some light on the puzzle.

It was the day after we had crossed the rio. Lt. Goddard wanted to get to Fatarella to find the Lincoln Battalion. It was along the road to Corbera that his journey would take him. Since his own car was not on hand, he got hold of Motorcyclist Minuto, and away they chugged.

About a kilometer from the crossroads Goddard spotted about a platoon of soldiers, who, from the distance, appeared to be ours. As the motorcycle approached, however, they opened fire against it. Goddard shouted to Minuto, above the motor's noise and the banging of rifles, to go like hell.

But Minuto stopped directly in front of them — 15 of them, including three cabos, half-concealed behind a stone wall off the road.

They hollered 'Manos Arriba!'. But Minuto had stopped because

he wanted to argue with them — he still thought they were our men.

'What the hell's the idea of shooting at us? We're comrades,' he told them in his loudest and most irritated Spanish.

Answer: 'We're not comrades — we're soldiers of Franco'.

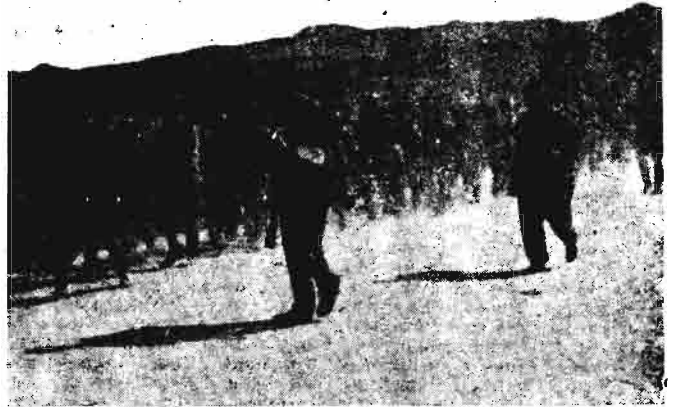
And there they were! The motorcycle was pulled up to the side of the road, and Lt. Goddard and Minuto were escorted up the mountainside, relieved of their arms.

'They were all young', says Goddard, 'and they seemed scared, not knowing what to do with us. After some conversation with them we found out that they were part of the garrison at Mora de Ebro. They had been ordered to scatter and go on to Fatarella when our advancing troops swept toward Mora after we crossed the river. It was at Fatarella, I gathered, that the fascists were supposed to make a stand.'

'I explained to them that it was no use their going to Fatarella; the town was already ours. When they heard this they said that didn't matter, that they'd continue to Corbera. When I told them Corbera was also ours, their faces showed that they knew they were in a tough spot.'

'I advised them that there was no sense shooting us — our troops were all over the sector, and they themselves would be captured in the long run.'

'While we argued, back and forth, with their spirits perceptibly drooping, we marched along. Presently we ran up against the spots where the Lincolns were fighting against some Fascists. By that time we had established better relations with the group of fifteen. They were all very curious and very friendly. The cabos finally decided to talk it over with the men. When the conference was over, they all decided to stack up their rifles and make a pile of their hand grenades, which they did. Then they returned my pistol, and turned themselves over to us as prisoners. They felt pretty serene about it all — I had already



LEADING in the fascist prisoners
Conduciendo prisioneros fascistas



THROWING a cable support across the Ebro
ECHANDO un cable de soporte a través del Ebro

explained that prisoners of war are not harmed by our side.

'After surrendering, they were happy for the first time since we had encountered them. They sang songs, and explained that all of them — except one — had relatives on our side, whom they were very anxious to see.'

'When we returned to the spot where we had left our motorcycle, it was gone. The time it took for us to return to Brigade was a time of anguish for Minuto. But when we arrived the cycle was there.'

Postscript: When Lt. Goddard and Minuto showed up with their fifteen prisoners at Brigade headquarters, they were greeted with more than an ordinary welcome. Many rumors had preceded their arrival — one of them to the effect that their dead bodies had been seen!

EFLOR

CARRYING a wounded
comrade to safety
LLEVANDO un camarada
herido a sitio seguro



LOOK PRETTY PLEASE

by Harry Randall, Brigade Chief Photographer

When the photographic section of the XVth International Brigade Commissariat was established, its tasks were seen as threefold: first, to make a photographic record of the XVth Brigade — where we have been, what we have done and who has done it — second, to make pictures for our press, "The Volunteer for Liberty", and third, to make pictures for use abroad, in England, the United States and Canada — to aid in developing support for the Loyalist struggle against fascism, and for the International Volunteers.

The first two of these tasks have been fulfilled, within the limitations imposed by a permanent scarcity of film and photographic paper, and the difficulties of working under war conditions. Running water and a more or less dependable supply of electricity are indispensable. But as we all know, our Brigade is a very

mobile unit, and our laboratory has to be prepared to move — like our soldiers — at a moment's notice. This proves somewhat inconvenient when we have a batch of developed films, which require four to eighteen hours to dry depending on weather conditions. You have to make the best of it.

Slightly irrelevant to strictly photographic matters — but important to the photographers — is the fact that we are frequently located in a town some distance from any other Brigade unit. Where and what to eat then becomes a problem. It has happened that every day one or another of us would have to hitchhike to the intendencia for rations, which meant that much less time for working in the lab and labwork never seems to be finished. But the generous hospitality of the Spanish people has, on occasions solved this problem for us. They have prepared many

tasty meals with our rations, often adding greens from their own gardens and usually refusing any pay for their work. When the time has come for us to leave for another position, these families have frequently prepared farewell dinners for us, dinners which represented the best of Spanish cooking.

During the past three months our position has been somewhat more settled and our problems have been more easily solved. Our lab is established with the Auto Park garage, and although the comrades who keep the Brigade's camions rolling are a hard-working gang, they have given us their whole-hearted cooperation.

A large selection of our historical pictures are being used, at the moment, in a photographic album which the Commissariat is now preparing. It should go to press within the next three weeks. But it has frequently happened that the pictures used in "The Volunteer" have not been the most suitable. Direct contact

with the paper is hard to establish, and all copy, messages and pictures must travel a slow and roundabout route, which makes it impossible to rush pictures to the press. Contact between the front lines and the laboratory alone is slow enough, so "In at one, out at five" they're done — certainly doesn't apply here!

Our greatest handicap, at all times, has been the lack of film and printing paper. At one time these supplies could be purchased in small quantities, but at the present time this material cannot be found in Spain, and repeated attempts to get supplies from abroad have met with complete failure. This shortage has, therefore, made it impossible to make any decent amount of pictures for use abroad. In addition, a great tangle of red tape must be disentangled before it becomes possible to safely transport pictures out of the country. Lack of supplies, again, has prevented us from making copies of photos for our comrades in the Brigade, even when it has been apparent that the pictures requested could be of immense publicity value abroad. Those pictures which we have sold to individuals have, for the most part, been extra copies which were no longer nec-



BRINGING up the boats

TRAYENDO las barcas



EVACUATING THE WOUNDED

EVACUANDO LOS HERIDOS



THE MULE BAIKS

LA MULA SE REVELA



RUSHING the riverbank under fire

PASANDO LA RIBERA bajo el fuego

ded for the purposes for which they were originally made.

Of the two photographers who take pictures for the Brigade, at least one is always with the Brigade itself, and whenever possible both are at the front when we are in action. The finest set of action pictures we have ever had were taken by Tony Drossel when we captured Quinto and Belchite.

But unfortunately, the best part of these negatives were lost by a comrade who «borrowed» them, in order to have copies made in made in Valencia. Ever since this tragic experience, we have guarded our negatives like a treasure trove.

We have a fine set of photographs of the Brigade at Teruel and its surrounding regions. Our best camera, and all the photos taken at Belchite, Albalate and Hjar during the retreat in March, were lost at Alcañiz when the Fascists took that town. During the rest of the retreat Comrade Katine and I were without film, and were, naturally, cut off from our base of supplies. We found ourselves, accordingly, acting as runners, ammunition carriers, guards, observers—anything that was needed during those chaotic days. Comrades Olaraka and Drossel managed to save our most im-

portant laboratory equipment, and they brought all our files and records through to safety.

In the period of reorganization and training that preceded our crossing of the Ebro, we were busy snapping pictures of training schools, delegations fiestas, activists, meetings, classes, congresses, etc. Then the moment came when we prepared to attack. Ben Katine took a fine set of pictures of our comrades crossing the river in boats and rafts, of the building of the first footbridge and the first groups of our soldiers to walk across it to the west bank of the Ebro, ours once more. We went ahead with our troops as we advanced, and later made pictures of the ruins of towns bombed by the Fascist planes. And when I caught up to the lines, we made pictures of our comrades in the lines during the fighting—machine-gunners, riflemen, the evacuation of wounded. The Mac-Paps were somewhat neglected during the first phase of the action, but we made up for this neglect during the second phase, so that each Battalion now has a record of its contribution to the heroic Ebro offensive of the Spanish People's Army.

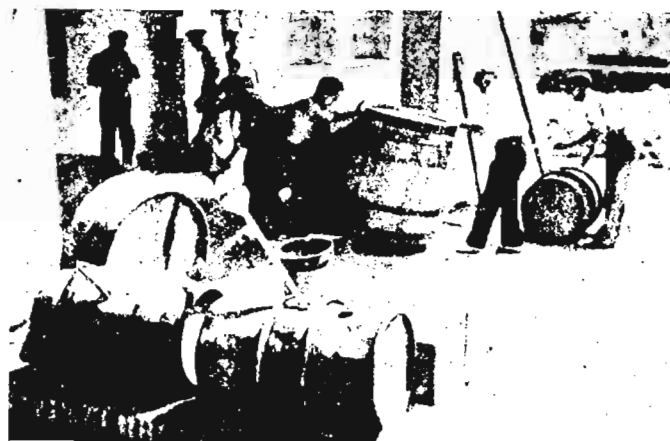
HARRY RANDALL



HARRY POLLITT, General Secretary of the British Communist Party, speaks to the men of the Mac-Pap Battalion during one of his visits to the Front
HARRY POLLITT, Secretario General del Partido Comunista Inglés, en su visita, habla a los hombres del Batallón Mac-Pap



DURING the 35th Division fiesta on July 19
Durante la fiesta del 19 de Julio en la 35 División



AT THE BRIGADE INTENDENCIA
En la Intendencia de la Brigada



ESTADO MAYOR kitchen staff on the job
LOS COCINEROS del ESTADO MAYOR, trabajando



ANTI-TANK GUN HIDE-OUT
UN CAÑÓN ANTITANQUE, ESCONDIDO



BRITISH BATTALION comrades building a shelter hut.
LOS CAMARADAS DEL BATALLÓN INGLÉS construyen abrigos



DISHING out the grub during the Battalion fiesta on July 18
SIRVIENDO la comida al Batallón durante la fiesta del 18 de Julio



BATTALION FOOT-BALL game, July 18 — PARTIDO DE FUTBOL en el Batallón
el 18 de Julio

HILL

by MORRIS L. MILLER 57th Battalion
(Killed by a fascist shell on the E)

The history of the British Battalion in the last action is a record of high morale, of discipline and of doggedness in a series of attacks against fortifications which could have withstood all but the severest blasting by artillery; of a record of attacks made beneath withering machine gun fire, enfilading from left or right, under artillery fire that almost unceasing and beneath the ever-present threat of avion.

The first two days the Battalion lacked the support of Captain Paddy O'Daire's Company One, which was away on a mopping-up expedition. With Company Two in reserve, Companies Four and Two attacked and succeeded in occupying the ridges facing hill 481. It was in this action that the grim list of casualties among the officers of the Battalion began: Maxie Nash, youngest section leader in the Battalion, was killed as he led his men over the top, and Company Commander Angus received a severe wound.

Observers reported that the hill was heavily fortified and for the first time the action assumed a serious aspect. What had previously been regarded as a light action became a tough proposition.

On the second day, Company Three, Commanded by Cipriano, went forward to within 20 meters of the top of the hill and engaged in hand grenade combat with the enemy.

That night with the help of the Listers on the left and a group of the 13th Brigade on the right, the Battalion carried out a night attack. The Listers succeeded in occupying the ridge, but the peak of it remained impregnable and they had to retire.

In the morning the news came through that Vaño Vaño, Commissar of the Third Company had died while heroically leading the Company into action.

A report on the June Activist Congress of the 35th Division, written by Morris L. Miller shortly before the Brigade went into the Ebro operation, will appear in the next issue of 'The Volunteer'. Miller's greatest legacy to the Brigade was the activist movement, of which he was one of the out standing leaders, and in whose formation and functioning he played a major role.

By this time the boys were thoroughly tired. Night and day they had made herculean efforts. To add to their difficulties, water was kilometers away and very rarely could details be spared. Moreover, communication had not yet been established with the Intendencia, though Bob Cooney, Battalion Commissar, had succeeded in getting up a small amount of tinned stuff which had been captured from the fascists.

Still the boys carried on without a murmur and when Paddy O'Daire and the First Company joined them they went forward uncomplainingly.

All the third day, the battle went on. Morris Davis, Commander of Company Four was severely wounded and Harry Dotson was killed.

On the fourth day, Company Two and Company Four combined under the leadership of Catalayud and Johnny Powers and on the fifth day, the last and most severe attack on the hill began.

All day long it went on with the leading men only twenty meters away from the top of the hill and the rest of the men not far behind. The air was thick with machine gun bullets and the fas-



CROSSING THE EBRO. Rapid get-away. — CRUZANDO EL EBRO. Marcha rápida.

81

Adjutant-Commissar
(front)

cist shells were landing in our forward positions.

When Battalion Commander Wilde gave the order to withdraw, the last attack had ended. Among the comrades we lost in this attack was our brave comrade, Lewis Clive, who had returned from the hospital the previous day to take command once again of his old company. He was killed while directing the fire of his men.

The Battalion now earned itself the name of «Shock Battalion» of the 15th Brigade. In spite of the fact that the fascists still held the position, the reputation of the Battalion had increased a hundredfold.

Why was this?

First, throughout the action the Battalion had had the benefit of Sam Wilde's experiences as Battalion Commander. Day and night he was at the telephone directing operations, in his usual blunt manner, ordering advance here, withdrawal there, regrouping the companies, reacting quickly to changing circumstances. Never ruffled by the fact that he was receiving half-a-dozen reports at once. He was a model of resource and coolness.

Second, to Bob Cooney's efforts as Commissar of the Battalion, the Battalion owed its high political level. The Activist movement under his guidance had become extremely strong in the Battalion and the results of the unity it had achieved in the Battalion were to be seen in the action. Brazell Thomas, Dave Guest, Joe Harkings, Max Nash, Antonio Monterino and many others had shown by their heroism that they were indeed activists, but it was not so much examples of individual courage that revealed the success of the Activist movement, but to the fact that politically and militarily the whole Battalion had been influenced. Such comrades



MAJOR VALLEDOR with some of his officers. (Standing with paper in hand) Brigade Commissar John Gates is sitting nearest to Valledor with rolled up sleeves. Next to Gates, also sitting, are Company Commander Patty O'Daire and George Fletcher. Sam Wilde, leaning against the tree, appears to be planning revenge against the photographer.

EL MAYOR VALLEDOR con algunos de sus oficiales (de pie con el papel en la mano). El Comisario de Brigada John Gates está sentado cerca de Valledor con las mangas levantadas, al lado de Gates, también sentado, está el Comandante de la Compañía Patty O'Daire y George Fletcher, Sam Wilde, apoyado en el árbol en actitud de planear.

as Taffy Foulkes and Taffy Brichell, non-Activists, who distinguished themselves in the action would be the first to admit this.

Third tribute must be paid to the leaders of the Battalion, Company Commanders, Commissars and section leaders who were outstanding in their courage and resource. They proved themselves—all of them.

The Battalion will always remember Hill 481 and it will always be proud of its achievements there.



CAPTAIN SAM WILDE (standing) and Commissar Bob Cooney, Leaders of the Battalion which earned itself the name of «Shock Battalion of the 15th Brigade». «The Battalion will always remember Hill 481 and it will always be proud of its achievements there».

El Capitán Sam Wilde (sentado) y el Comisario Bob Cooney, jefes del Batallón que ha conquistado el nombre de «Batallón de choque de la XV Brigada». El Batallón recordará lo que sucedió en la cota 481 y se sentirán siempre orgullosos de los acontecimientos que allí tuvieron lugar.



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CHRISTMAS IS COMING

Our fat Fascist friend in Burgos has got the jitters, and every time he gets the jitters and those mean Republicans have the jump on him he sends out his Italian and German airplanes, loaded with equal parts of propaganda and projectiles. The projectiles are no joke, but the propaganda is.

«Come over to us», says our f. f. in Burgos. «Have no fear that anything will happen to you. Here in National (sic, very sick) Spain you will enjoy peace and plenty». Well, we would enjoy plenty of something or other, and the fact that friend Franco keeps his pilots busy dumping out reams of paper, means just this: that the war isn't over yet so far as he is concerned. He tells us that it is over so far as we're concerned, but we're under no obligation to believe him, especially now that he's being harassed on his right flank, his left flank, his front and his — his rear.

So what? So it's time to think of your Christmas shopping; for it looks like a long, hard winter. What does the soldier need? (Mark this article when you mail your copy of the «Volunteers» home—and mail many copies). The Republican soldier will need:

Strong shoes	Woolen knitted gloves
Thick Woolen socks	Wool-lined leather gloves
Woolen underwear	Woolen knitted scarves
Flannel shirts (khaki)	Woolen pull-overs
Strong pants (ditto)	Knitted helmets
Windbreakers (same color)	Waterproof ground-sheets

These are articles which are indispensable to the health and comfort of our men here, articles which can be sent in bulk to the International Brigades by our friends back home in England, America and Canada. They *must* be sent through the regularly constituted organizations, The Friends of the Lincoln Brigade and the others. But you can encourage your friends, your unions and any other organizations to which you may belong, to make up bulk shipments of these necessary articles, and let the regular organizations send them on to the Brigade. In this way much confusion will be avoided, and the needs of all can be supplied.

Write now, for it will be winter before two shakes of a Franco's.

G. I.



MCKENZIE - PAPINEAU Battalion Canteen
La CANTINA del Batallón MACKENZIE - PAPINEAU

FIRST BATCH OF 15 BRIGADERS GO ON FOREIGN LEAVE

There was a good deal of joking about the term «French leave» last week when, in pursuance of Government policy, the first group of thirty Fifteenth Brigaders left for foreign leave. Thirty more will temporarily desert our ranks this week, and the weeks thereafter, until all men who have fourteen months in Spain and sixth months' front-line service, have enjoyed a brief vacation abroad.

From the British Battalion there was Captain Paddy O'Daire, leader of the famous Major Attlee Company, a veteran with 20 months' service to the cause of Spanish Democracy. Captain O'Daire served at the Cordoba front, and took over the command after Paddy Daly was killed at Quinto. Here was one of those ironical incidents that war brings into prominence, for Daly and O'Daire faced each other on opposite sides during the troubles in Ireland. O'Daire was a leader in the Irish Free State Army, Daly in the Irish Republican Army. Teniente Ted Edwards of the British is numbered among this first group also; he was cited for his work in the last action.

Among Lincoln-Washington men who are looking forward to the boulevards of the City of Light where, for the moment, no shells are landing and the machine guns do not rattle, were the following:

Teniente Mike Pappas, hard-boiled commander of the Machine-Gun Company, with nineteen months' service in Spain behind him; Political Commissar David (Red) Drummond of the same Company, a fighting seaman and soldier; Teniente Elias Biegelman of the Lincoln Observers, who is proud of a coat he wore in every

action he saw during his 21 months here; Harry Hakam, former adagio dancer and jack-of-all trades, who possesses a shirt he wore into Spain, and is wearing out of Spain; and Teniente Bill Hallowell. Hakam, Harry Fisher (a Brunete boy who has seen almost every action since) and Bill Maher (now, for some reason or other, in the British Battalion), all came to France in the same ship—the *Ile de France*. All will now return, temporarily, to France on the same wheels.

From the 24th Battalion there is Teniente Manuel Valenzuela, and from the Brigade Commissariat, Antonio Pujol, his compatriot. Pujol, leading Mexican artist whose work is known on at least three continents, hopes to spend a week in Mexico before he returns. Also from Brigade is the popular mail-man, Ernest Mahoney, who will enjoy a brief respite from insistent questions: Is there any mail for me?

Joe Gibbons, original Mac-Papper, and Karl Cannon, also of the Mackenzie-Papineau, leave, with this contingent. Cannon is a former C. I. O. organizer from Toledo (Ohio), who was wounded at Fuentes de Ebro and recovered exactly in time to be wounded again at Teruel. He expects to see his wife in Paris.

Brigade Commander Major Vallerod and Brigade Commissar John Gats addressed the men, bidding them farewell and wishing them a well-deserved rest. Both stressed the strength of the Government of National Union, which at such a time as this can afford to release, if only for awhile, men who are so indispensable to the proper functioning of our Brigade.

THE VOLUNTEER PRESENTS

The following comrades of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion, who have been cited for conspicuous work in the last action:

CABO FURRIEL, JOHN MALONE: In addition to his work as quarter master, he also acted as a runner, carrying messages through heavy fire and also assisting with the wounded. Wounded himself, he refused to be evacuated, and was wounded a second time.

CABO, GEORGE FUCHUK: Directed his men under fire with calm and assurances, carried in a wounded comrade under fire, and when wounded in the ear himself, refused treatment.

CABO RAYMOND HENDERSON: Directed his men in a perfect manner during the crossing of the Ebro, organizing them immediately after they were across. Began fortification work before anyone else, in positions opposite Hill 481.

CABO THOMAS HANNON: Wounded in a bombardment seven kilometers from Ascó, where many were killed and wounded. Though gravely injured, he did not want to be evacuated before he had a chance to avenge the death of his best friends, who had fallen forever.

SARGENTO BOIVO SUNI: Continued to lead his men after receiving a shrapnel wound in the chest during an enemy attack on our positions. Always a good example, cited for his work during our crossing the Ebro and the march to Gandesa. Stayed at his post directing fire. Holds a long front line record, including reserve at Jarama and front-line service at Brunete, Quinto, Belchite, Fuentes de Ebro, Azuara, Caspe, Calacelte, Gandesa, Ebro, Ebro Crossing and the Sierra de Pandols.

STRANGER THAN FICTION

It happened this way.

Our Battalion was the first of the 15th Brigade to cross the Ebro. We reached the enemy side without much difficulty. Our night attack had caught the fascists by surprise and they fled into the hills towards Gandesa. The city of Gandesa was a key fascist position, and one of our objectives in the offensive. As we pursued the enemy over the mountains every man was ready for action. Comrade Pedro was especially alert, he always kept his rifle clean and ready, for he knew what it meant to fall into the hands of the fascists. His wife and son, his father, mother and sister were in fascist territory. He had not heard from them for over a year and a half. They evidently had given him up for dead, and he feared the worst for them. Now his thoughts were of revenge as he marched on.

We marched all day till dark, meeting very little enemy resistance except from retreating fascist groups, who fled as we fired upon them. Special vigilance was established as we approached Gandesa. Every house and barranco was carefully examined by our advance patrol before the battalion passed. Every peasant was questioned about enemy forces and troop movements. We also wanted information about the quickest routes over the mountains to Gandesa. I went with one of these patrols to investigate and question a peasant family. It was dark, the house had a dim light. I stationed two guards at the door and entered the house with two other soldiers.

The peasants were very friendly. They gave us water and vino to drink. They told us about the enemy troops and the best routes to Gandesa. They also informed us that they were Loyalist sympathizers, and that their son was in the Republican Army. We were sceptical. We had to be cautious because we were in enemy territory.

We decided to search the house as a precaution. I called the two guards outside the door to assist. Some member of the household lit another oil lamp and that was the end of the search. For from all sides there were loud shouts of joy and crying.

«Padre» «Madre!» «¿Dónde estabas?» «¿Cómo estás?» «¿Hijo mío!»

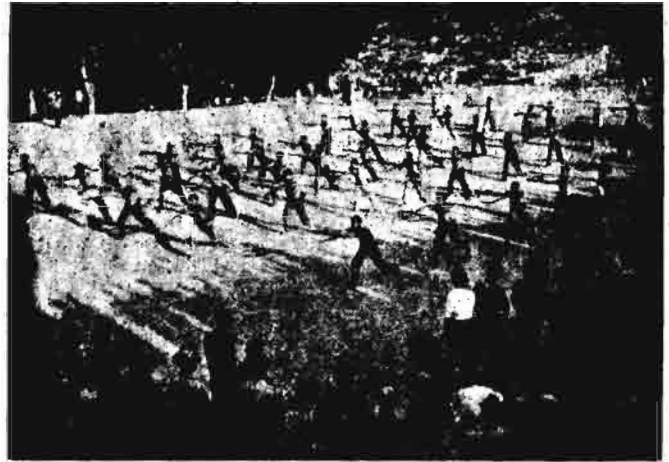
The next thing I saw was Comrade Pedro in the arms of his aged mother. She was trembling and crying. They begged on bended knees that their son could remain with them for the night. But Comrade Pedro knew best. We must go on or the enemy would strike back. I promised that after we reached our next encampment and received new orders — then Comrade Pedro could return for a short visit.

A few hours later that night we encamped near Gandesa. I went to Comrade Pedro and told him he had permission to visit his family for the night. He saluted and off he went, a very happy man. He returned the next day full of stories of how his family had kept moving from place to place to escape fascist persecution. He brought sad news that his wife and son were far in fascist territory.

I saw him the next day with a grim determination on his face as we made our attack on Gandesa. His thoughts were of his family, now free from the fascists, and his wife and son still somewhere in the territory controlled by the foreign invaders. He fell wounded on the second day of our attack on Hill 481. Now he is in a hospital anxious to get back to the Front. For he must fight on till he is reunited with his wife and son — and until the fascist invaders are wiped off the sacred soil of Spain.

Frank Rogers

Comisario de Guerra—Mackenzie-Papincup Battalion Bon. 60, 15th Int. Brigade.



FIELD demonstration at the 35th Division
UNA demostración en la 35 División



TIME FOR A SMOKE in the trench
HORA DE FUMAR en la trinchera



LEOPOLDO MAESTRE and José Sarsano of the Special Machine-Gun Company
LEOPOLDO MAESTRE y José Sarsano de una Compañía Especial de Ametralladoras



MURRAY NEMEROFF and Al Goldberg of the 15th Brigade Medical Unit read a long letter from home
MURRAY NEMEROFF y Al Goldberg, de la Unidad Médica de la XV Brigada leyendo una carta de casa

INTERVIEW WITH CAPTURED GERMAN AVIATOR

by EDWIN ROLFE

The sinister bi-motored Heinkel 111 soared above the Government lines on the western side of the Ebro, released its load of deadly bombs and changed direction for its return flight as the anti-aircraft opened up on it. Two years of inhuman bombardment from the air, by just such German and Italian planes, have taught the Spanish people much; and not the least of their achievements is the highly increased accuracy of their anti-air fire. That was why the Heinkel 111, although it was several thousand metres above the Catalonian hills, was hit; and that was why its occupants took to their parachutes.

And that is why Erich Neumann, 25 years old, of Berlin, sat on his bed in a well-guarded hospital for enemy prisoners a few days ago, his fractured left arm in a cast, facing a battery of correspondents who fired their questions at him as rapidly as the anti-air battery had fired its shells at his plane when it crashed on August 20th.

Neumann is a pleasant but bewildered looking blond young man, at times slow and uncertain in his speech, at other times surly, irritated, stubborn. What struck me most of all was his astounding

ignorance of the issues at stake in the war.

Why had he come to Spain? His answer was confused. But first of all there was the matter of money—he thought the pay would be considerable; but he was quickly undeceived. Although he said he had volunteered to go to Spain, all his subsequent answers revealed that he knew little, or would say little, about what he'd volunteered for.

Neumann first sailed from Hamburg on November 4, 1936, landing at Vigo a few days after. For a long time he worked as a plane mechanic then as an observer and machine-gunner. After a long stay in Spain with the fascist air forces, he returned to his native country. He reached Spain for the second time on July 6, 1938, a month and a half before his plane was brought down.

«Did you return to Spain this second time by sea?» he was asked.

«No, this time by civil plane» he replied.

«Any civilians on this civil plane?»

«No», he admitted. «There was only the crew of our Heinkel aboard».

«Why did you come to Spain?

Have you anything against the Spanish people?»

«Nothing», he answered. «As men against men, not nothing».

«Then why did you come?»

«Because I was sent here».

«But aren't you a volunteer?»

«Yes—but even a volunteer has to go where he's sent».

«Why come to Spain?» a Swiss correspondent asked. «Germany didn't lose Spain in the great war. This isn't one of the colonies Hitler says must be returned to Germany...»

Neumann was quite confused by now. «The Fatherland», he kept repeating, «Der Vaterland...»

Before then he had informed us that he was not a member of the Nazi party, nor was his father, a Berlin mechanic. It was to protect his parents and family from punishment that he refused to answer many of the questions put to him, he explained. His father was employed in a large factory, he said, adding that unemployment was no problem in Germany.

«Is that because military preparations are in full swing?» he was asked. Neumann was not sure—he wouldn't answer that question.

«And is that why the prospect

of big money' made you come to Spain?»

He shrugged his shoulders, remained silent.

«How do the German and Italian air forces get along with each other?» we asked.

«Our squadron works alone», he replied. «We have our own base».

«But don't you work together? There are invariably German and Italian planes in the air simultaneously, over the same sectors».

«If they are, that's planned somewhere higher up», he said. All he knew was that he'd rarely seen Italians or Spaniards, except for his commander who, he said, is a Spaniard.

«Does this commander of yours speak German?»

«No».

«And you, do you speak Spanish?»

«No, only German».

«Then how are orders transmitted?»

«He hesitated, shrugged his shoulders again, didn't reply. Even though he was a non-commissioned officer, Neumann insisted that all he did was carry out orders. As mechanic he had his work mapped out for him. As machine-gunner and observer, he never looked downward toward the bomb-mutilated earth, the crumbled towns. «My eyes», he said, «are always in the air, on the lookout for opposing air craft». There was no answer, either to the question as to how he felt about bombing open cities. All he did was his job, he insisted; carry out orders and keep looking for opposing planes in the sky. The sight of a hundred horribly mutilated bodies of children, lined up on the stone floor of a Barcelona morgue after a bombing, had never troubled him, never even entered his mind. All he did was his job.

As we quizzed him I couldn't help thinking of an Italian prisoner I had visited not long ago—an infantryman, 23 years old, a member of one of Mussolini's Divisions in Spain. Unlike Neumann, the young Italian was coarse, heavy of feature, with a rasping voice which even the melodious syllables of his native language could not soften. Neumann was like him in his amazing ignorance of the meaning of the war in Spain, in his unthinking acceptance of the ideology of brutality. I visited the Italian prisoner in the company of a young Italian-American volunteer—a real volunteer, a member of the original Lincoln Battalion. And when we emerged from the prison, my companion clenched his fists and said, bitterly, «If that's what Mussolini's doing to the youth of Italy...» He said no more than that.

Before we left the hospital we asked Neumann how long he thought the war was going to last. «Since the Ebro battles», he answered «I don't know. Before then we thought it would be over soon. But now—well, I think it will be a long, long time...»



THESE SPLENDID antifascist girls, in a town in the rear, prepare the laundry and do the mending for the men of our Division

EN UNA CIUDAD de la retaguardia estas simpáticas muchachas antifascistas lavan y componen la ropa de los hombres de nuestra División



“BE A GOOD SCOUT”

To an American the word scout has a heroic and adventurous connotation. Daniel Boone and Kit Carson, favorite heroes of our boyhood, were scouts during the glamorous days of the great American frontier.

Most of us, as kids, joined the Boy Scouts, in order to emulate, as nearly as possible, the lives of these daring men. And so the term 'scout', among the strange



military terms of the army, has a familiar and a distinctly American flavor that appeals, I believe, to most of the volunteers. But for those who have not yet learned that modern warfare has very little glamor or heroics, the Lincoln Battalion Scouts can give such assurance.

When Cabo Tom O'Flaherty with his squad precedes the Battalion on our left flank during a night march, and Cabo Leon Herschman on the right flank scouts out the roads and caminos ahead, and they strain eyes and ears for evidences of possible Fascist patrols or forces, they will be able to tell you that scouting is just plain hard work. The Battalion travels on the road—the

scouts climb up and down hills and must still remain in advance of the column. And when they are used as sign-posts to mark the way for the moving Battalion, they grin sheepishly and resign themselves to their ignoble jobs.

However, scouting has a more exciting aspect, as the following details will indicate:

During our action to the left of Villalba, the Battalion moved down into a baranco, in order to be in position to follow the —th Battalion when it attacked a low hill near the entrance of the gulley. After dark the attack of the —th began, and we waited, listening to the din of exploding grenades, and to the machine-gun fire. Then the Fascist artillery opened up, and they began to drop shells into our baranco with remarkable rapidity and uncomfortable accuracy. It was a bad half-hour for our comrades, and when the barrage had lifted Captain Wolff ordered the scouts to advance in patrol down the baranco, and to find out where the —th had established its lines.

It was pitch-dark as we picked our way cautiously along, meeting small groups of the —th. We asked them where their lines were located and they shrugged their shoulders or pointed down the baranco. A little further along we came to a line of chavolas. There was a pair of legs sticking out of the first. I kicked the feet, thinking to wake their owner and ask for information. It felt as though I had kicked a sandbag; and there was no answer. The next chavola contained another pair of unresponsive legs. A little further along we pulled up sharp and stood

silently staring at a row of bodies leaning against a rock terrace in various grotesque position. We continued without a word, the stench of decaying flesh in our nostrils. We passed no more small whispering groups of the —th Battalion, and since we did not know what lay immediately ahead of us, we split into two groups, one moving to the left, the other continuing straight ahead.

The latter group emerged into a flat, open-space that lay at the entrance to the baranco. Here the ground was littered with the dead,

so we decided to cut to the left and contact our other group. Failing in this, we returned to our prearranged meeting-place, and a little later O'Flaherty appeared with his group. He reported that they had contacted the new line of the —th Brigade, which had just been established to the left of the entrance to the baranco.

The next day Joe Gordon, who had accompanied us on the patrol, reported from the observation-post that we had advanced into Fascist territory in our quest.

LUKE HINMAN

FIGHTING MEN FROM A FIGHTING UNION

The nights were cold enough for picketing, but in the bargain there were the cops and the strike-breakers. Broken heads and even



ARCHIE BROWN

Among that first group was Max Bowers, Hymie (Bimbo) Brown and Wilbur Wellman, all of whom have been here over eighteen months, and have given a good account of themselves. Since they have been here the Union had continued to grow and progress. The longshoremen and the warehousemen provided the inspiration for the organization of many other unions. The former immediately consolidated the 4,000 members in the Bay area of Frisco—the warehousemen took a little longer to get under way. But they grew from a union of 500 members (in 1934) to over 8,000 (by 1937). And their growth is limited only by the number of warehousemen in the Bay area.

After the retreat from Teruel, Pat Sullivan and several other members of the union left for Spain. Pat turned up missing after the retreat across the Ebro. They tell me he didn't mind the lack of training; he was anxious to get at the Fascists. In May of this year Henry Good (warehouseman) and I (longshore) came over, and we saw our first action across in the victorious recrossing of the Ebro.

Back home the union is still doing its stuff. I'd like to quote a letter: and now we have over 800 participating in various sports activities. We expect to have them all marching in the Labor Day Parade. Imagine, the first time in Frisco's history, a sports section in the Parade. Our own band will lead off, with the girls' drill team following, and then all the ballteams in their swell new uniforms. Of course, you know of our basket-ball and baseball games for Spain. And both the Longshoremen and the Warehousemen send \$25 monthly to 'The Friends'...

Both here and at home, the Union tries to go ahead.

Archie Brown
Political Commissar
Co. 1, Battalion 38



BOXING MATCH in the Lincoln-Washington Battalion
UN MATCH de boxeo en el Batallón Lincoln-Washington

killings were common. On July 5th a flock of squad-cars rolled up alongside the union's lot and ordered the men to disperse. The men had started to leave, when suddenly the cops fired into them, killing two and wounding fifty others.

Instead of breaking the strike, this unwarranted action by the police further inflamed the workers, and San Francisco saw its first general strike. After ninety days of a bitter struggle, the seafaring unions forced the ship-owners to their knees. That was in 1934. In 1936 and 1937 the performance had to be repeated, and as the strike was over a group of men from the International Longshoremen & Warehousemen's Union sailed for Spain. They felt that in going to Spain they were merely continuing the fight that started on the picket-line—a world-wide fight for decent living conditions and for human justice.

«RADIO»

JOSÉ RAUSELL PLASENCIA

58 Batallón - 1.ª Compañía

Un hijo del pueblo, natural de Fayos (Valencia), ha muerto heroicamente en la cota 666 de la Sierra de Pandols, defendiendo la República.

Era un combatiente de los que más se distinguió en la lucha, por su valentía y serenidad, por lo que sus jefes le concedieron el mando de una sección teniendo solamente el grado de cabo. Demostró en todo momento ser un verdadero antifascista y un buen militar.

En todo momento dió ánimos a sus hombres, con los cuales convivía siempre como un camarada cualquiera, enseñándoles el mejor camino y lugar que tenían que seguir para no ofrecer blanco al enemigo.

Pertenecía al Batallón Lincoln desde la toma de Belchite, actuando, además, como responsable del grupo de fortificaciones en el asalto de Fuentes de Ebro, con lo que demostró ser un buen elemento en este género de trabajo. Actuó en Teruel, Sierra Pedragosa, Quinto, Belchite, Batea, y estuvo cercado en Gadesa, logrando romper el cerco.

Una vez principiaron las operaciones del Paso del Ebro, fue uno de los elementos que más se distinguió.

En la toma de Fatarella, él solo entró, con 18 hombres de su sección al pueblo, haciendo honor a su valentía, marchando siempre al frente de sus hombres.

En la siguiente operación fue herido en la cabeza, negándose a permanecer inactivo y, en todo momento marchó delante de sus hombres, lo que hizo que su sección se distinguiera en todo momento.

Solo, con nueve hombres, supo mantener una buena posición mientras no llegaron refuerzos, siendo siempre el valiente animador de la lucha.

En una de las ocasiones vino al puesto de mando de la compañía con la cara negra y le pregunté qué le había sucedido y su contestación fue ésta: «M'han pegat una tamborinà que si no m'agache em pelen».

Últimamente actuó en Sierra de Pandols, donde murió heroicamente, no dejando de alentar a los suyos hasta sus últimos momentos.

Con él hemos perdido un buen camarada, un verdadero antifascista; un hijo del pueblo, de oficio albañil, que ha sido uno de los héroes que han escrito su historia con su propia sangre, y han dado la vida para el bien del proletariado, no solamente nacional sino del mundo.

Que descanse en paz nuestro querido compañero «Radio»

Ramón Sans Matinero

En Campaña, 28-VIII-38.



LIGHT MACHINE-GUN POST
UN PUESTO de ametralladoras ligeras

CARTAS DE LA XI DIVISIÓN

Los hombres de la XV Brigada sintieron un estremecimiento de orgullo cuando marchaban, trepaban y arañaban su camino hacia la Sierra de Pandols; porque ellos sabían que el equipo que iban a reemplazar en este infernal terreno era el famoso y de mundial renombre de la XI División del Ejército del Pueblo español, que lleva el nombre del Teniente Coronel Enrique Lister. Los de Lister habían tomado los picos de esta sierra al principio mismo de la campaña del Ebro, habiéndolas conservado desde entonces. Batidos en un pequeño sector de este lado por la insuperable cantidad de artillería, aeroplanos y bombas incendiarias, que quemó enteramente este lado de la montaña, volvieron a tomar este terreno al día siguiente. Continuaron en esta imposible posición por más de veinte días, cuando nosotros fuimos a reemplazarlos. Pero, creéis que cuando fueron reemplazados quisieron acostarse, para tomar el descanso que tenían bien merecido? Bien, marcharon a descansar, pero echados al suelo, con el oído pegado a él, escuchaban lo que estaba sucediendo. Supieron nuestra resistencia en las colinas que ellos habían tomado, y se sentaron en el suelo y nos escribieron cartas, cartas que acaban de entregarnos. Estaban firmadas por Capitanes, Tenientes, Cabos, Comisarios y Soldados, y son muchas. De este grupo de cartas, las cuales expresan la solidaridad que existe entre nuestras divisiones españolas y las internacionales, hemos seleccionado tres, puesto que es materialmente imposible el publicarlas todas.

Carta 1.ª:

Estimados Camaradas de la XV Brigada, 35 División. — En estos días que estamos pasando y viendo como resiste los duros contraataques enemigos que con tanta artillería y aviación os contraatacan, admiramos vuestro heroísmo, habiendo como hasta ahora nosotros hemos hecho y demostrando al mundo de lo que es capaz el Ejército Popular. — La Sección Especial del 2.º Bou. (Thaelmann), 9.ª Bri-

hicimos y estamos dispuestos a repetirlos siempre que nuestros mandos nos lo ordenen, hasta obtener la total limpieza de nuestro suelo de extranjeros y traidores a la Patria. — Camaradas componentes de la XV Brigada: por nuestras madres, por nuestras esposas e hijos, por nuestras novias, cumplid la consigna de nuestro Presidente: RESISTIR ES VENCER. — ¡Viva la XV Brigada! ¡Viva la República! — En Campaña, 24 de agosto de 1938. — El Capitán, Julián Sáez; El Comisario, P. Roca; Soldado, J. Alvarez. (Es copia).

Carta 3.ª:

Hay un membrete que dice: 5.º Cuerpo de Ejército, 11 División, Novena Brigada Mixta, Comisariado. — Al Comandante y Comisario de Guerra de la 15 Brigada de la 35 División. Estimados Camaradas: Ante la lucha heroica que en estos días estáis escribiendo en las páginas de la historia de nuestra guerra de independencia, no podemos por menos de enviaros nuestra más entusiasta felicitación a todos: Jefes, Comisarios, Oficiales y Soldados de la mil veces gloriosa XV Brigada, que habéis sabido poner la infranqueable barrera de vuestros pechos llenos de sacrificios por la victoria, hundiendo banderas del Tercio y Falangistas degenerados, que jamás levantarán la cabeza en nuestra Patria. — Os repetimos en nombre de todos los combatientes de la Compañía de Ametralladoras del 3.º Batallón, de la 9.ª Brigada, XI División, nuestra felicitación y saludo y esperamos continuéis victoriosamente nuestra ofensiva del Ebro, haciendo de cada metro de terreno liberado y conquistado, la tumba del fascismo donde se estrellen para siempre. — ¡Viva la Gloriosa 35 División! ¡Viva nuestro glorioso Ejército Popular! ¡Viva nuestro Gobierno de Unión Nacional! — Con saludos antifascistas, el Capitán, B. Torre; El Comisario, Francisco Vázquez; Teniente, Jacinto Gamallo; Sargento, Jaime Gülera; Cabo, Francisco Jarvia; Soldado, Francisco Tomás. (Es copia).



PREPARING the food as well as possible
PREPARANDO lo mejor posible el alimento

JAMS ON THE MAXIM MACHINE-GUN

by LI. JACK COOPER



MACHINE-GUN PIT on the Gandesa front
Nido de ametralladora en el frente de Gandesa]

The Maxim Machine Gun is one of the finest guns that exist.

It uses a 7.62 bullet, the same as the "7.62 Rifle", Tukerev Light Machine Gun, and Dicterev Automatic rifle. Theoretically the Gun is capable of 600 bullets a minute. It is fed by belts which hold 250 cartridges. This makes it possible to have the gun loaded for a long time. It is simply stripped and assembled. If the gun is not properly cared for there will be many JAMS.

What are some of the jams which a machine gunner most often experiences?

1. In the trenches at day-break you notice an enemy patrol moving about. As your gun is always ready, you attempt to fire. You squeeze the trigger but the gun does not fire automatically. What's wrong? When the gun was last cleaned, it was also oiled. (During warm or hot weather, heavy oil is used). During the night with the change in weather, the oil becomes even heavier.

The lock has therefore been prevented from moving freely. This retarded action prevents automatic fire. To remedy this jam the lock must be taken out and all oil removed from the parts. After the gun has been shooting for a short time and it has warmed up a little, oil should be applied to the parts of the lock. If the lock moves easily, the recoil spring should be checked. It may be weak. Less than the necessary pressure of 9-11 pounds. Do not use so called easy ways. Gasoline mixed with oil (to thin oil) is no good. No oil at all applied to the parts is also bad.

Such methods do not help but on the contrary only ruin the gun. Oil does not mix well with gas. Therefore when it is applied certain parts are covered with gas and others with oil. Gasoline evaporates quickly and with the morning dew you will find the gun rusty in spots. Leaving the gun completely dry only exposes it to rust.

2. During hot weather when the gun has been set for automatic fire and has been firing a lot you may notice the cocking handle not coming all the way down to the roller (on the right side leaf of the gun). When the cocking handle does not reach the roller, the trigger will not fire. By forcing the cocking handle down, a few shots may be fired but again the gun will jam. In such cases take the oil brush out of the grip handle and apply to the rails inside the mechanism box. (The lock moves on the rails).

3. During hot weather there is an exceptionally great amount of dust in the air. This dust accumulates in and around the gun. Dust mixed with oil forms small particles of foreign matter. These scratch and ruin all the fine parts of the gun, especially the lock and the barrel.

All parts of the gun should be wiped with a clean soft, rag. Special attention should be paid to the barrel and lock.

4. The Maxim is a water-cooled gun. Water or liquid is always necessary in the water jacket. If you should be short of water and are very thirsty always remember that the gun comes first. If you fire the gun without water you may burst, expand or bend the barrel. Machine gun crews should make sure to have water containers and a reserve supply of water before going into action. During the summer it is advisable to have one especially assigned to get water up to the guns.

5. Carelessness in loading the belt and the gun will cause delay in opening fire at the proper time.

a) If the cartridges are not placed straight into the belt, they will not enter the feed box straight. This will enable them to move onto the cartridge carrier of the lock.

b) By not pulling the belt straight into the feed box, the cartridge inside the box will be crossed.

In the first case (a) the feed box must be taken out and the cartridge straightened out in the belt. In (b) by pushing the cocking handle forward and firmly pulling the belt with the left hand, the cartridge will be straightened out. This must be done quickly.



MAJOR VALLEDOR examining enemy positions
El Mayor Valledor examinando las posiciones del enemigo

6. Sometimes you will have previously loaded the gun properly and had her thoroughly cleaned. Yet when you squeeze the trigger you do not shoot any



59th BATTALION machine-gunners and some riflemen
Camaradas del grupo de ametralladoras del 59 batallón, y tiradores certeros de fusil



BRITISH BATTALION comrades mounting machine gun during the Battalion fiesta, July 19
Camaradas del batallón 57 montando una ametralladora durante las fiestas del batallón, 19 de Julio

bullets off. You hear a tick in the gun. The two most common reasons for this jam are (1) broken firing pin (2), deep capsule in cartridge.

7. A gun that fires without having squeezed the trigger is a "run-away gun". The cause for this is that the small side of the spring inside the lock is broken. The "run-away" can be stopped by pulling one cartridge out of the belt. As soon as that space is reached, the gun will cease to fire. The lock should be immediately replaced. If there is no spare spring on hand the faulty lock should be sent to the armory immediately. You should have a spare lock with you at all times.

Just before the cold weather arrives an article on "frozen guns", damp and wet belts, will be written for publication in THE VOLUNTEER. The above mentioned jams are the most common.

Harry Dobson

Seven years ago Harry Dobson and I were room-mates in school.

For more than a year we lived together and I soon learned to appreciate his many good qualities.

Always modest and retiring but withal the essence of comradeship, Harry exhibited a shrewd appreciation of all problems facing the British working class. His contributions to discussions were always flavoured by a quiet but none the less pungent humour.

We parted company in 1932 and saw nothing of each other till our reunion in Spain five years later, but in the interval Harry



HARRY DOBSON

was doing big things in the South Wales coal-fields.

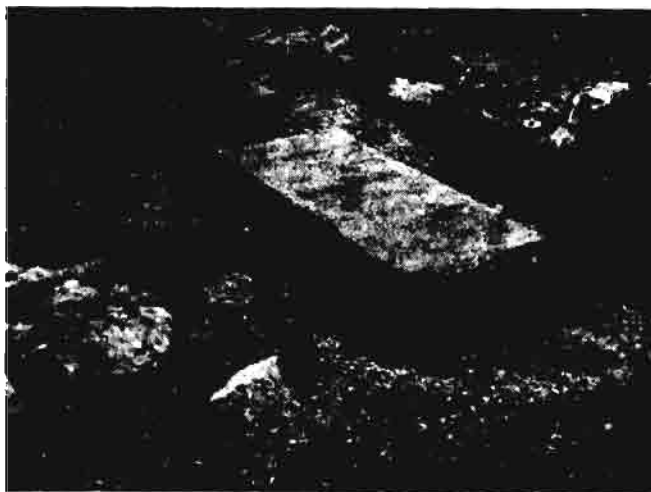
He figured prominently in a number of industrial disputes and twice went to jail for his antifascist activities.

In June 1937 he came to Spain in a ship which was torpedoed, but Harry was picked up. He rapidly made his way to the front of affairs in the British Battalion. He acted as Battalion Commissar during Comrade Tapsell's absence in England during the months of September and October. When Comrade Tapsell returned Harry went for a period to the officer's school.

He returned to the Battalion in February this year and took over as Commissar of the Major Attlee Company. Throughout the Belchite-Caspe action he was a tower of strength, his energy being equalled only by his coolness. At Caspe he was captured by a fascist officer. Neither his calm nor his quick wit deserted him. He was carrying his rations — a tin of 'bully' and a hunk of bread — in a sandbag. At the psychological moment he swung the sandbag and bowled his captor over with a hefty blow to the back of the neck. By the time the officer recovered his wits, Harry was well out of sight.

After Caspe he went to work with the Brigade Commissariat but even there he could not keep out of trouble. In the Calaceite-Gandesa action he was with the Lincolns when they were cut off. The group he was with spent three days in fascist territory. The coolness and astuteness which Harry displayed were big factors in enabling this group to escape.

It was only with considerable difficulty that Harry could be persuaded to talk about these inci-



TOMB to the memory of 15 Brigade comrades who fell at Sierra de Pandols
Tumba a la memoria de los camaradas de la 15 Brigada, caídos en las luchas de Sierra de Pandols

THE FIRST 16 MONTHS... THE VOLUNTEER Changes Hands

With this issue, John Tisa, who has been associated with *The Volunteer for Liberty* from its earliest days, first as assistant editor and then as editor, turns his work over to new hands.

The Volunteer for Liberty's first number appeared in Madrid on May 24th, 1937, under the editorship of Ralph Bates, noted English novelist and former I. B. officer.

Two months later, when Comrade Bates joined the staff of the XV Brigade, Edwin Rolfe took over the editorship, and shortly afterwards Comrade Tisa became his assistant. Tisa acted as editor of *The Volunteer* during Rolfe's illness last winter; and when Rolfe left to join the Lincoln-Washington Battalion early in April, Tisa formally became editor of the magazine.

There are many others, both in the Brigade and out, who at different times have contributed their time and efforts to *The Volunteer*. Outstanding among them are Frank Ryan, now in a fascist prison; A. M. Elliott, Alex. Donaldson, Morris Mickenberg, Miles Tomalin, Morris L. Miller and the noted American Negro poet and novelist, Langston Hughes. All of these men — with the exception of Morris L. Miller — contributed to the *Volunteer* in Madrid, before

it was moved to Barcelona on January 20th of this year.

During its 16 months of regular publication, *The Volunteer* has appeared sixty times. Despite constant difficulties ranging from shortage of paper, lack of chemicals for making engravings, cessation of electric power (both in Madrid and Barcelona), to difficulties of continuous contact with Brigade, *The Volunteer* feels that its pages have accurately mirrored both the life of the Brigade and the outstanding events in Spain during these past 16 months.

In addition to publishing *The Volunteer*, the editors have also produced such books as the 'English-Spanish Grammar', and hundreds of pamphlets, leaflets and postcards for the XV Brigade. They have also taken constant part in the general work, for all of the Brigades, of the central Commissariat of the I. B.

In turning over the editorship to his successor, Comrade Tisa urges the men of the XV Brigade to continue to send stories, poems, anecdotes to *The Volunteer*. These are the raw materials not only of a weekly publication produced during wartime, but also the raw materials from which a definitive history of the XV Brigade will someday be written.

When he did so, it was in a modest impersonal manner.

After the Gandesa action he resumed his activities with the Brigade Commissariat and quickly won the respect of his new associates.

When the Commissariat split up for the Ebro offensive Harry elected to cross the river with the British Battalion.

In one of the many attacks on hill 481, he went over the top with Company four and met his death in a manner worthy of as brave an antifascist as ever lived.

Not the least of fascism's crimes

is that it does to death the finest sons of the people, the men who have the greatest right to live.

But Harry is already revenged. The Ebro offensive in which he played so brave a part has already caused many of his murderers to bite the dust. We can find consolation in the fact that Harry died in the knowledge that his enemies were on the run, that the cause for which he gave his life was advancing to a glorious triumph.

BOB COONEY

Commissar-British Battalion

Major Johnson Bids Farewell to Men Here

Barcelona, September 6, 1938.

Dear Comrades:

On the eve of my departure from Spain, I want to extend my regard to all the English speaking and Spanish comrades of our Brigade and our services. I also would like to take this opportunity of thanking all these comrades for the many lessons I have learned from them, and for the opportunity I had to work in close collaboration with many of them.

I believe that this is the correct moment to issue a word of warning to all our comrades: first, do not forget that your individual experiences have been limited; do your utmost to extend your knowledge of military theory (Soviet's collective knowledge of the subject) and so better equip yourselves for further tasks. Second, remember that discipline is not only a word used in discussion, it is a thing to be put into practice. The best disciplined soldier is the one



MAJOR JOHNSON

who carries out his orders with the greatest exactness and the least loss of time, using at the same time the greatest flexibility, good judgement and initiative.

In closing I want to give all the comrades a goal: try to follow in the footsteps of Copenico Garcia, the best little man that I personally knew in Spain and who will be heard of later in the history of Spain's struggle for democracy and against the foreign invaders. For myself, I can only add that wherever I will next serve in my military capacity, I will always recall the lessons we have learned together; I will always carry out my duty to the working class and aid the struggle for democracy and peace to the best of my ability.

Good luck to you all and remember that we will be watching you with the greatest pride.

Salud y Victoria.

(Signed) Allan Johnson

P. S. Anyone who wants to write to me (and I will reply) should use the following address: C/o Shaum, 517 E. 13th Street, New York City, U. S. A.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades

PUBLISHED BY THE WAR COMMISSARIAT
OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

VOL. II • Special Supplement No. 28

Barcelona - September 23, 1938

The Republican Government decided to retire immediately all the non-spanish combatants.

This decision is a proof of the strength of the Republic, a new proof presented to the world of the profoundly national character of the struggle the Republic is waging against the foreign invaders.

This is a demonstration of the desire of the Government to do away with all the pretexts of fascist intervention and with the tolerance and complacency with which certain democratic nations regard our struggle.

It is a demonstration of the strength and capacity attained by the Republican Army which is based on the support of the entire people and which is led by officers who have proven their ability in hundreds of battles.

We greet this decision for all that it signifies and for all the hopes that it offers for the final development of the struggle for national liberation.

Disciplined as always, we'll carry out firmly the decisions of the Government.

We are taking leave with profound emotions from our comrades in the trenches after two years of fighting and living together gloriously.

We are taking leave from the soil of Spain which we have learned to know on all the fronts, which we have loved, which we will always love as if our own country. Our memory is directed towards those thousands of our heroes who sleep on forever in the cemeteries of Madrid and Guadalajara, of Málaga and Córdoba, of Jarama, Bru-

nete, Quinto, Belchite, Fuentes de Ebro, of Teruel and Pozoblanco, of Extremadura and Aragon. Our memory is turned towards our magnificent comrades who fell during the epic offensive and the defense of Ebro.

We are returning to our homes proud of our duty well done and proud of the glory that our acts have brought to our country and our people.

We are leaving the trenches of Spain but this does not terminate our struggle for liberty.

We will continue to fight for Spain in our home countries, for the liberty and independence of all the people who are now so gravely menaced by Hitler and Mussolini.

New and grand battles are awaiting us. We will face them with all our enthusiasm and with all the courage that characterized us in all our battles, with all the military, political and organizational experiences which we have gained through our contact with our Spanish brothers.

Only the unity of all people can close the road to fascism this is the lesson we are taking home from Spain. This is the lesson that we intend to impress on all our brothers at home.

The sooner this lesson will be understood and applied in all countries the more efficiently will we be able to aid our brothers who are continuing the struggle in Spain and thus bring about the speedy and final victory over fascism in Spain and in the entire world.

LUIGI GALLO

VOLUNTEERS TO BE WITHDRAWN

Dr. Negrin announced to the League of Nations that the Government decided to retire immediately all volunteers fighting on the Government side.

In a sensational speech made before the meeting of the League of Nations in the afternoon of September 21, Dr. Negrin, Prime Minister announced the decision just made by the Republican Government to retire all foreign volunteers immediately who are now fighting in Spain.

The text of Dr. Negrin's speech follows in full :

«Mr. President : In the name of the Spanish delegation permit me to make a declaration and formulate a petition to this assembly.

The Spanish Government has followed with profound anxiety the crisis which is threatening the peace at present. The hidden insinuations according to which we are desirous to see a general conflagration as a solution to the fight we are engaged in are so impertinent that they merit nothing but contempt on our part.

We are interested in the maintenance of peace for reasons of principle. The interests of a country must never come into conflict with the universal and humane interests of the community of nations. And we are only interested in de-

fending the legitimate interests of our own country. But we are desirous in avoiding a general conflagration not for the sake of principle alone. We are guided in this by our national egoism also. After more than two years of war we know very well the significance of preventing a world conflict.

It is not necessary for us to provoke catastrophies to solve our problems. It would have been sufficient and it will be sufficient to recognize our rights and re-establish our international rights that have been violated to assure a rapid solution to the Spanish problem.

The elimination of foreign intervention in Spain would assure a policy of national conciliation under the firm and energetic direction of an authoritative government, enabling all Spaniards to forget these years of suffering and cruelties and to re-establish rapidly interior peace.

Then the great tribulation suffered by our country might be considered as a baptism by fire, as a form of ransom that had to be paid for the renovation of Spain and for the rebirth of a national spirit the decline of which, in the past

generations, was in a great measure the cause and origin of the tragedy we are suffering.

The Republic decided to withdraw immediately the foreign Volunteers

And now, Mr. President, I am coming to the concrete point which is the motive of my declaration.

In her desire to contribute to the pacification and «restraint» which we all desire, and in order to eliminate all pretexts and possible doubts about the genuinely national character of the cause for which the Republican Army is fighting, the Spanish Government has decided to withdraw immediately and completely all the non-spanish combatants who are participating in the fight in Spain on the side of the Government; it is to be well understood that this withdrawal is to be applied to all foreigners, without distinction as to their nationality, including all those who have acquired Spanish citizenship after July 5, 1936.

Here is, then, my petition: The Spanish Government has decided to solicit the Assembly of the League of Nations to constitute immediately an International Commission with the mandate of doing all the investigation and verifications necessary to guarantee the League of Nations, their member States, and the world opinion that the decision to retire the foreign volunteers will be carried out in its totality. Furthermore, the Spanish Government pledges itself to concede to this Commission all guarantees, all fa-

cilities and all collaboration that they deem necessary to fulfill their mission.

Tribute to the heroism and self-sacrifice of the Volunteers

It is with a feeling of great sorrow that we regard the idea of separating ourselves from this group of brave and self-sacrificing men who, led by a generous impulse that will never be forgotten by the people of Spain, came to our aid in the most critical moments in our history. I want to proclaim here the heroism and the high moral value of their sacrifice they have voluntarily undertook, not to safeguard petty selfish interests, but solely to serve and defend the purest ideals of justice and liberty. We are absolutely certain that they will readily undertake this new and painful sacrifice which we are asking at present in order to benefit the cause for which they were ready to give their lives.

Spain will not forget those who have fallen on her battlefields nor those who are still fighting on her soil; but I feel safe in saying without equivocation that their own countries will feel proud of them and this is the highest moral recompensation they can receive.

Presents a resolution

I have the honor to submit to the Assembly the following resolution:

«The Assembly, informed of the decision of the Spanish Government to proceed to retire immediately and completely all non-Spanish combatants who

are participating in the Spanish war on the side of the Government, decides to accept the petition of the Spanish Government soliciting the naming of an International Commission with the aim to give the League of Nations and their member States the guaranty that the withdrawal will be executed in its totality as stated in the declaration of the Spanish Government along with the promise that this Commission will be given all guaranties, facilities and collaboration

necessary to the fulfillment of its mission.

« It is decided to accede to the demand of the Spanish Government to recommend to the Council, without loss of time, the formation of such International Commission as requested by the Spanish Government, and to work out in accordance with this, all necessary practical details that will enable the Commission to complete its mission as soon as possible. »

(Thunderous ovation in the Assembly)



Una sola preocupación política en todo el país y en todos los antifascistas:

¡Unidad contra el enemigo común!

Ediciones del Comisariado de las Brigadas Internacionales



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 33

Barcelona, October 6 - 1938

WORLD YOUTH CONGRESS GREETES XV BRIGADE

In a letter dated August 26, 1938 published in full below Joseph Cadden, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, describes the electrifying effect our greeting had on the Congress

Dear John Gates and all of the American Boys in Spain :

During the last ten days Vassar College, in the middle of quiet Dutchess County on the Banks of the Hudson has been a madhouse filled with the shrill voices of 600 delegates from fifty-nine different countries who attended the Second World Youth Congress. For the

first time we had lots of Latin-American representation which meant that Spanish was heard as much, if not more than, any other language and you can imagine that these same Latin-Americans did everything they could to make the Congress exciting.

But in the middle of it all Marguerita Robles came up with a book about the 15th Brigade with a neat message on the title page signed by yourself and in the leaves a note of greeting from George Watt and Milton Wolff. She had come with it on the President Roosevelt along with twelve other Spanish delegates among the hundred Europeans and somehow had cleverly forgotten to mention the book until the most critical and exciting moment of the Congress when she produced it and her presentation was made amid an uproar which would have thrilled all of you as much as it thrilled those of us in the hall at the time. There were lots of differences of opinions and many fights but the cheers and salutes which greeted the Spanish delegation and also mention of the International Brigade were unanimous. It was certainly the proudest moment that any Americans at the Congress had. In fact it was the only moment at which American young people could say that the international cooperation we all talked so much about was actually being put into practice by American students.

The Congress as a whole did two things — first of all the World Youth Congress blossomed into a movement since every delegate there represented an organization and went away convinced that his group at home was going to participate in a great international effort to really do something concrete and immediate about the World situation. Secondly the Congress proved to the American public that there was a vital and vocal Youth Movement throughout the world interested in international cooperation for peace and democracy.

The publicity the Congress enjoyed was really remarkable. Three thousand clippings have already been delivered by our clipping service and this is only a day after the Congress closed. Even the smallest town papers carried news of the Vassar Peace Pact which was signed at the end of the Congress and which scored aggression. The pact pledged that Youth at least would do everything in its power to curb aggression both in connection with the wars now in progress and with possible future acts which are already threatened by the aggressor governments.

We have had about 40 radio programs during the last two weeks and all in all we hope we have done at least a bit toward educating the American public. Of course in all of this education and publicity the Spanish delegation played a front-page role even out-shadowing the large Chinese delegation which had come from Hankow.

We are sending you a hundred copies of the Commission reports and the Vassar Peace Pact under separate cover so that all the boys will have a chance to read it. You will also find the description of the Congress in general and the list of the delegates which will give you an idea of its scope.

Thanks to all of you for the book and the message and your heartening greetings have helped to bring home to all of us once more the courageous role you are playing in the front line of the World struggle.

Another thing which the Congress proved to everyone concerned was that the victory of the Spanish and Chinese people is going to be an American victory. The Congress was under constant attack by reactionary Americans who called it "Red" and we saw in these attacks the same type of abortive attempt to kill democracy as you are defeating in Spain.

With best personal wishes as well as the greetings of the Congress as a whole, we are.

Very sincerely yours,
JOSEPH CADDEN



FROM ASTURIAS TO RIO EBRO

Asturias is a long way off from Ebro — both in time and space. The heroic defense of Asturias against the overwhelming forces of the Italian and German invaders supporting Franco is now a record of history, its lessons and experiences are now part of the experiences of the Spanish Republican Army.

The man embodying all these experiences, Major José Antonio Valledor, present Commander of the XV. Internacional Brigade has lived to see the day where he could apply these lessons to the present fighting at Ebro to pay back the Fascists with ven-



Major Valledor

geance for all the horrors and atrocities they have inflicted on his people.

The appointment of Major Valledor marked the beginning of a new and advanced phase in the history of the XV. Internacional Brigade and the Spanish Republican Army as well. With Valledor the military leadership of the Brigade passed into Spanish hands. A record of the achievements of the Brigade under his leadership provides an illuminating story of the new Spanish military leaders emerging out of the struggle — a capable, well trained and experienced military leadership which is a further guarantee of the eventual victory of the Republican Army of Spain.

When Valledor made his first appearance at Brigade Headquarters his presence went almost unnoticed. Stories of his record preceded him — his rise from the ranks in the Army of the North to Commander of a Brigade; his taking to the mountains after the fall of Santander there

Major Valledor, Commander of XV Brigade, saw his chance to apply the lessons he had learnt in North to the defense of Ebro — with disastrous results to the fascists

By SANDOR VOROS

(Former Chief of the Commissariat of the XV International Brigade)

to resist inch by inch for 46 days; his cheating of the firing squad by a lucky ruse; his sensational escape from the concentration camp after five months of forced labor; his crossing into France — all these facts were known about him. It was also known that he has been in the revolutionary movement since his early youth; that he had played an active role in the Asturian Revolt in 1934 and was condemned to death, his sentence later being commuted into imprisonment for life; that the doors of his prison were finally opened for him when the Popular Front Government came into power.

All the above facts plus stories of his indomitable courage were known to us all but it was difficult for anyone to connect these romantic exploits with this young, unassuming modest chap with his shy boyish grin, his polite eagerness to please. Instead of striding brusquely into our midst as expected from a Brigade Commander his approach was very much like of a young cadet just out military school in the presence of seasoned senior officers, and we wondered...

Reminded of this recently when we were saying each other goodbye, Valledor explained with a smile:

• I knew the reputation of the

Brigade and I shared the admiration for its leadership with the rest of the people in Spain. I knew I was dealing with experienced soldiers and I set myself out to learn all I could from them to give them the Command they deserved.



The new Chief and the old; Valledor and Lt. Col. Copic saying Goodbye

Valledor went to work and he worked hard. He went about his task methodically without any

fireworks or outburst of temperament and slowly changes began to take place. These changes were imperceptible at first but they soon made their effect felt. He held conferences regularly with his Staff placing more and more responsibility on the different departments. Organizational changes were made that resulted in greater efficiency.

Discipline was tightened up. There were regular meetings with the commanding officers of the Battalions and a close personal contact established with them. In less time than it takes to tell he became part of the Brigade as if he had been with it since the beginning.

He was sensitive to every problem no matter how little or big. His approach did not limit itself to the purely military but was combined with political understanding. He was quick to recognize ability in others and would discuss problems of strategy and tactics with an open mind to derive the most benefit from them.

Valledor took advantage of the new recruits to put the Brigade through an intensive period of training and manouvers. When some of the new recruits proved themselves superior in marksmanship to the seasoned veterans Valledor cleverly exploited the pride of the veterans to improve their marksmanship also. The training period was short but intense and the results more than gratifying. The Brigade and its Commander entered the Ebro offensive confident of their strength, fully convinced of victory.

(To be concluded in our next issue).



Major Valledor addresses the Brigade on parade

LETTERS FROM THE LISTERS

Men of the XVth Brigade felt a thrill of pride when they marched, climbed and grunted their way into the Sierra de Pandols; for they knew that the outfit they were to relieve in that hellish terrain was the world-famous 11th Division of the Spanish People's Army, that bears the name of Teniente-Coronel Enrique Lister. The Listers had taken these saw-toothed peaks at the very beginning of the Ebro campaign, and had held them ever since. Beaten off one small sector of the front by insuperable quantities of artillery, air bombs and incendiary bombs that burned the entire mountain-side, they retook the territory the very next day. [They had held these impossible positions for over 20 days when we relieved them. And you would think that once they were relieved, they would lie down and take a well justified rest.

Well they got the rest, but they kept their ear to the ground and they knew what was going on. They learned of our resistance in the hills they had taken and held, and they sat down and wrote letters to us — letters which have just come through. They are signed by captains, lieutenants, cabos, commissars, rank-and-file soldiers, and there are many of them. From this group of letters, which express the solidarity that exists between our Spanish and International divisions, we select two or three, as it is manifestly impossible to print them all:

Esteemed Comrades of the XVth Brigade, 35th Division:

During these days when you are resisting the severest enemy counterattacks, which are aided by so much aviation and artillery, you yourselves counterattack! We admire the heroism you have displayed up to the present moment, showing the entire world, what the People's Army of Spain is able to do.

The Special Section of the 2nd

Battalion (Thaelmann), 9th Brigade, 11th Division, salutes you and promises that we shall continue to fight as we have up to now, so that we may achieve an early victory for our cause.



Sierra Pandols

*Long Live the People's Army!
Long Live the XVth Brigade!
Long Live the Spanish Republic!*

Teniente, A. Blanco; Delegado Político, V. Blasco; Sargento, G. Campos; Soldado, D. Valdivia; Soldado, A. García.

From the 9th Brigade, 3rd Battalion, 1st Company of the same Division. Dear Comrades of the XVth Brigade:

In these days when the enemy displays greater fury than ever, and is trying to break the front which you together with your brother units are so bravely defending, and by means of his propaganda is trying to sow demoralization in our ranks, we combat-

tants of the 11th Division say to you:

Have no doubts; fight unflinchingly; smash their best shock brigades just as we did, and as we are always prepared to do at

Comisario, P. Roca; Capitán, Julián Sáez; Soldado, J. Alvaiz.

Here is another:

Esteemed Comrades!

In the face of the heroic struggle which you are writing on the pages of the history of our war for independence, we cannot do less than send our most enthusiastic congratulations to all of you, leaders, commissars, officers and soldiers of the thousand-times glorious 15th Brigade. You have known how to erect an impenetrable barrier of hearts filled with sacrifice for victory. You are trampling own the banners of the Tercio (Foreign Legion) degenerate Falangists, so that never again will they be able to raise their heads in our country.

We repeat our congratulations again, in the name of all the fighters of the Machine Gun Company of the 3rd Battalion of the 9th Brigade, 11th Division; we salute you and hope to continue our victorious Ebro offensive, making of each meter of liberated and reconquered soil a barrier against which Fascism will smash itself — a barrier that will become its tomb.

Long Live the Glorious 35th Division!

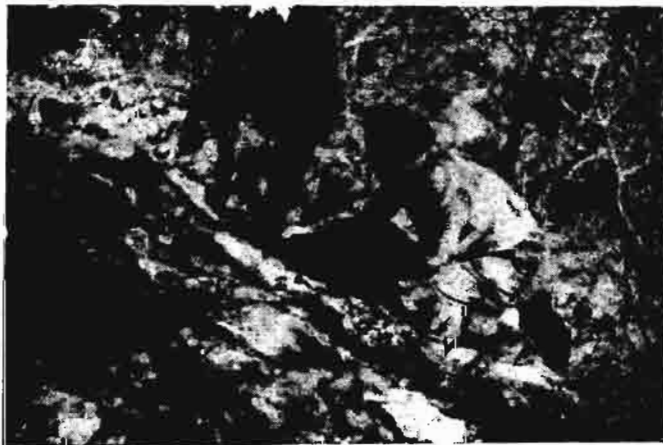
Long Live Our Glorious People's Army!

Long Live our Government of National Union!

With anti-fascist greetings.

Capitán, B. Torres; Comisario, Francisco Vázquez; Teniente, Jacinto Gamallo; Sargento, Jaime Guilerá; Cabo, Francisco Tardía; Soldado, Francisco Tomás.

IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN TOUGHER



Trench mortar in action

Time: Midnight, August 1, 1938.
Place: Near the summit of Hill 481, Gadesa.

Present: Lewis Clive, Lawrence Pryme, young McGuire and the Author.

Our attack has more or less petered out in fact it had been called off — and the fighting was quieting down.

Said Pryme: "Got any more bombs, Bill?"

"No." — I replied and then I remembered that there were still two in my ammunition bag which I carried slung over my left side. Pryme took one and climbed the ridge from which the fascists were slinging their grenades.

Clive said: "Pryme, you are simply asking to be shot."

Pryme took no notice but coolly and deliberately let go with his bomb. Mine went in the direction of a machine gun on the right

which had suddenly come to life. McGuire and I had a pot at a figure on the sky line and then settled down to await developments which came rapidly in the shape of a handgrenade. I was wounded along my left side and my ammunition bag was simply blown away.

My wounds have kept me in the hospital well over a month already. But what if those two bombs had been in my bag? My most severe wound was on my left thigh, just where that bag had rested.

Young McGuire helped me down the hill for about fifty yards and seeing I could get along fairly well he said:

"I am going back up."

And he did.

WILLIAM WARD

2. Company, English B'on

Three poems of Spain by Bill Harrington



IN AN OLIVE GROVE

I wandered thro' the tortured grove
Where 'midst the ruined trees we drove
The fiends of war to final death;
That they might give to you and me
Heritage of a world set free.
And there beneath a twisted limb,
Beneath whose scars life crossed the brim;
There beside a riven stem
Alone which marks the grave of men
Who gave their lives to see unfurled
The standard of Man in a better world
There I sat and the vision rose,
A glorious galaxy of those
Whose youth and hopes were sacrifice
To dreams they had of a paradise
To brave ideals of a virtuous earth
Their years were shed to bring the birth
Of a boundless joy that will amply repay
The everything that they gave away.

ARAGON BALLAD

Francisco Franco, fascist chief,
Of him is the story told,
His «justice» fills the Aragon hills,
His curse is manifold:
He's taken toll of the North and South
The gore it reacheth far;
and they tell the tale of his «charity»
In the ring at Badajoz.

Francisco Franco, fascist chief,
Of the North and South is told:
That the North and South shall open their mouth
To a People's flag unrolled:
When the big guns speak to an Aragon peak
And his foreign confreres flee —
Ye have heard the song «How long? How long?»
How long to your victory?



FAREWELL

The barren soil grows rich
With Life's red blood,
And fertile peace shall hide
This black terrain;
Youth and joy shall thunder
As in flood,
To drown the dust of war,
The weeds of pain.
And as the sun comes up,
And reddened skies
Reflect the glory of
The sacrificed:
A thousand voices shall
In echo rise,
To greet this new-born land
In vict'ry's tryst.



THE INIMITABLE

There is not a man of us who did not like and appreciate Teniente Johnny Cookson, Adjutant of the Transmission Company of the 15th Brigade, for he combined the rare qualities of a man of science, a good organizer and a sincere, simple and lovable person.

Nineteen months ago he was plunged into the early chaos of the original «Genie» Company. The first question he asked me on his arrival was about the possibility of using radio in the Brigade, and his enthusiasm and energy were unabated to the very last day. He struggled hard to raise the technical level of our Company, to create order out of chaos.

The second time I met him, at Brunete, he was maintaining the communications of the Washington Battalion. He was tired but untiring despite the many miles of wire burned by enemy incendiary bombs. After a stay on the southern front he was back with us again at Batea and at the most critical times he kept both his head and his high spirits. Left at Batea with the Lincolns, he managed to pick up most of the wire and practically all the telephones and with six other comrades he made his way back to our forces through the enemy lines. On one occasion they met a fascist column marching along the road; it was too late to escape, so they simply marched with them. When challenged they used the magical password «Transmisiones» — and it worked. Two days later Cookson arrived with his little group, practically unshod, his clothes torn, dirty, unshaven, hungry and tired—but still carrying a telephone and a coil of wire!

He took interest in all the phases of our work, and there were few men who wore out as many pairs of alpargatas as he did on the hills of this Spanish earth, finding the best and shortest way to lay his lines. In his inimitable Spanish, and with the help of a black board, he could instruct our Spanish comrades

in the science of transmissions better than any of our linguists.

It was almost impossible to refrain from pulling Johnny's leg about his Spanish, but he never got upset about the kidding. On the contrary, he turned his unconscious humor into supposedly conscious humor. Such little tricks of his made his lectures and his conversation not only instructive and interesting, but also extremely amusing. He thought much more rapidly than he could speak, and whenever he wanted to explain something in a hurry he would skip words, interchange syllables and utilize peculiar expressions we christened «Cooksonian».

On one occasion he told me that three linesmen were «adamant» to go out on the line. Naturally, I said, «Well, let them go». «No», he said, «they are rather adamant». I inquired who was stopping them, to which he replied, «Nobody». Then it dawned on me that he might mean reluctant, which I suggested to him rather timidly. «Yes», he said, «of course they are reluctant; can't you understand?»

For Johnny was a great lad for arguing. He would argue about scientific, political or ethical subjects; about wireless, telephony or any subject under the sun, displaying a deep and wide knowledge and a subtle sense of humor.

In the Ebro operation he worked day and night, and it was impossible to make him rest during action. Only when we were sent into a reserve position would he fall asleep under a tree, completely oblivious to the outside world. Even the arrival of the grub would not wake him.

He was altogether unassuming and never seemed to bother about his personal comfort. To see Johnny with torn alpargatas, without blanket or mess kit was the usual thing. And he never grumbled.

Nor did he lose his scientific interest in the world about him. In the midst of a heavy shelling you could hear him count the number of seconds that elapsed between the flash and the detonation of a shell, in order to calculate the distance of the explosion. In his spare time he wrote letters to his family, friends and associates, urging them to work for Spain and against fascism. At rest he permitted himself the luxury of studying the quantum theory.

Johnny was a promising young scientist and had done some valuable original work in crystallography. He had a secure job at home, he had work that he enjoyed. Yet he considered it his duty to come here to fight. He gave all his enthusiasm, his energy, his knowledge and finally his life to that cause.



John Cookson (center, sitting) lecturing to the Transmission men

"A MAN MAY AS WELL DIE YOUNG FOR A PURPOSE..."

The letter reproduced below was received by Comrade Cookson a day or two before his death.

Green Bay, Wisconsin, Aug. 20, 38.

My Dear John,

Once more we come together by mail—we must be thankful for having that privilege...

An investigation into CP activities is now in progress in Washington. Two soldiers who deserted from the Loyalist forces make claims that any man asking to be sent home is shot, that 1700 American boys are virtually prisoners, etc., etc. If so, why do so many return?

Keep up your good work. It may be in vain but there is no question if I were your age, I would also be with you.

I read this A.M. of the bombing of Barcelona Aug. 19th. 150 people reported killed.

My health is bad, my heart is playing out. If am not here anymore when you return, always remember I am glad you went over. A man may as well die young having died for a purpose than live a whole life without one.

Write me as often as you can,

Love
Daddy



Ready for a counterattack

We respect and admire Johnny for his knowledge, his splendid work; and we love him for his great, kind heart, which found expression in so many inimitable ways. Another anti-fascist hero

is dead; but he will live in our hearts until we also die.

James Ruskin
Chief of Transmissions
XVth. Brigade



WITH THE BRITISH BATTALION

All was not exactly quiet on the British Battalion's sector during the last action of Hill 565... This despite the fact that the Battalion was theoretically in reserve, in accordance with the accepted reserve policy of the Division, the Army Corps and the Army... Two companies were detailed to work with the Lincolns and the 59th... These were the 4th and last companies, respectively... They saw plenty of action on these two sectors of our front, and they brought stories back to the men in reserve.

But they got a story in return... Here is a semi-semi-official version... It seems that Sergeant McGuire, adjutant of Company 2, was in charge of an antiavion squad... Said Sergeant McGuire had a light Czech machinegun in his squad, and shortly after a shell landed in the Brigade Estado Mayor (really, this is entirely irrelevant to the story), six or seven, or it might even have been nine Heinkel 52 light bombers came over the lines and set about their dirty work.

Sergeant McGuire fired six bursts from his light automatic Czech, and at the last burst he suddenly



Major Attlee Co. on parade a few days after the Ebro offensive

went wild. He started to yell that he had hit the bloody thing, that his last burst had done the trick... Sure enough, and to the amaze-

ment of all (probably including Sergeant McGuire), the bloody thing came down.

Chapter Two... It seems that the

59th also had an antiavion squad, and they too were firing at the plane... certain it is that they laid claim to the credit for knocking down the Heinkel 52 light bomber... No reports have yet come in from the Lincolns or the Mac Paps, but it is a reasonable assumption that they will also lay claim to the plane.

Well, the pay-off (as those quaint Americans phrase it) is just this: that the *Brigade* has received the credit for wiping one German Heinkel 52 light bomber from the Catalanian skies, and *nada más*... So it is suggested that the antiavion squads had better get busy, and work up a little competition. If we knock down 4 planes, the tension will be easier around Brigade... both literally and figuratively.

The "Volunteer's" correspondent in the British Battalion is ill as we go to press; which may account for the fact that this column is somewhat the slim side... So here is a slogan "Blame it on Bates"... But there is no reason why the British comrades can't sit down and do a little writing on their own; we want it! they want to read it.

COMMISSAR ALAN GILCHRIST

From school teacher to soldier—that's the briefest biography of Alan William Gilchrist, best known in the XVth. Brigade as Commissar of the anti-tank battery.

At Gandesa, in our Ebro offensive, Gilchrist was Commissar of the Major Attlee Company of the British Battalion when he was wounded leading a last desperate rush on the famous hill 481.

With only 21 men he infiltrated toward the fascist fort that had resisted three days of pounding. Half-way, he dropped for a moment for cover behind a tree and a rock. A machine-gun bullet zipped through a crevice between wood and stone and ploughed into his right lung. Both his stamina and his courage are revealed by the fact that after only six weeks in the hospital Gilchrist returned to the Brigade—at his own insistence.

He looks more like a military man than a schoolmaster—25, blond, confident, with a stature that would have made him a first class fighter in the days when soldiers wore iron uniforms.

Why Gilchrist is fighting in Spain is explained by his background. The son of an English commercial agent, he had occasion in his youth to observe the workings of British imperialism in Argentina and in the Canary Islands. During war years at school in England he heard German guns booming across the Channel and was bombed by German raiding planes.

"But really", he expostulates, "they never killed anything in our district but a few sheep."

After four years at the University of London he answered an ad for an "internationally minded lecturer" to teach English at the American University of Beirut, Syria.

"Strangely enough", he recalls, "my left views helped. I spent a year teaching Syrians, Turks, Americans and other odd nationalities. They were quite leftist and I am glad to say they were slightly more leftist before I finished."

"It's a French mandate, and

talk about dissatisfaction! Half my students were slung in jail and had their heads shaved like convicts. Fortunately they were released and since everyone wears a fez in the classroom, it didn't matter."

Zilchrist came back fourth class on a French ship carrying mostly troops. "All the French soldiers sang the International before going to bed", he relates. "It was great."

Followed a year of teaching the beauties of English literature in an English private school. "Teaching's the worst job on earth", he declares. "Anybody

who's ever taught in a private school will know why I came to Spain."

In May, 37, he exchanged chalk-dust for gun-powder.

"I came to Spain on the last boat to arrive with volunteers. The only one after that was the City of Barcelona—which only came part way."

At Madrigueras he was made an observer in the newly formed anti-tank battery, with Dunbar as Commander and Slater as Commissar. "I didn't know anything about artillery and neither did the other observer. We taught-ourselves to draw maps and use instruments."

He served at Jarama, Brunete and through Aragon, was made Commissar at Teruel, caught malaria at Seguros and returned in time for vigorous service in the rearguard-actions at Calaceite and Gandesa.

The reasons for the British Battalion's good showing in the Ebro fighting he lists as "some damn good new recruits and some damn good vets who made up the activist group and were the nucleus of all our work. Added to that was the teamwork of Commissar Cooney and Captain Wild and the general disposition to take the training period seriously."

As to the future, Gilchrist says it really hadn't occurred to him to think about it seriously. But of one thing he's sure, he positively will not go back to school teaching.

"I shall endeavor", he muses, "to become a professional politician. Who knows? I might find myself in China."



Rear-view of Commissar Gilchrist (third from left) at the crossing of Ebro

"LEFTY" OF THE ANTI-TANKS

We wish to pay our respects to our comrade, Ben Glaser, who died from shrapnel wounds received when helping to hold back a fascist attack in front of Corbera. Ben was hit the evening of September tenth, and died the same night.

A founder of the old Anti-Tank Battery, he first went into action at Jarama in June of last year, and was with it through the Brunete and Quinto-Belchite offensives. When that famous last stand was made by a handful of Spanish and International comrades outside Gandesa, Ben took part in it and the subsequent retreat across the mountains.

He will probably be remembered best in the Brigade for his readings from Clifford Odets' "Waiting for Lefty". It is right that this should be, because his



PROUD OF HIS BROTHER

Comrade Glaser's Brother writes to the Volunteer as follows:

Dear Comrades,

I have just heard via London of the passing of my brother whilst in action on the Ebro front.

I am — and I am sure the rest of our family, 14 in all, are proud to have had among us one to have given his life to a great and worthy cause!

Would you please be good enough to let me have what details are available of how our brother met his fate.

With all sincere wishes for success of Republican Spain.

Yours fraternally

Charles R. Glaser
9 Spring Road
Hempston, Bedford

September, 20, 1938.



The old anti-tankers.

life was bound up with the theater, especially the workers theater. A member of the Unity Theater Group, he played in this and other Unity productions. With his love for the theater went the realization that its future was identical with the fight against war and fascism; that culture in any form, and fascism, were incompatible. He desired to see established a Brigade theater group, and was working toward this end when he was killed. The realization of this aim would be the best tribute we in the Brigade could pay our "Lefty".

— Comrades of the Number 1 Anti-Tank Battery, XVth Brigade.



THEY WANTED TO FLY

Scratch a XVth Brigader and you are likely as not to find a pilot. For the roster of men who are technically qualified to fly an airplane, and who are still acting as volunteer infantrymen in this Brigade of the Spanish Republican Army, is astonishing. This becomes even more of an apparent paradox when you consider that the average pilot's scorn for an infantry soldier is boundless. What! gravel in the mud, the dirt, the filth, when you can soar aloft on glittering wings? What! lie on your face under artillery and machine-gun fire, when you can look down on the struggle from a respectable altitude, engage in knightly combat with your winged peers and, if necessary, get shot down out of nice clean air? Nonsense! For everyone knows that even in the People's Armies of Spain and the Soviet Union, the aviators are the cream of the crop, the aristocrats of the military service, the boys whose natty uniforms catch all the girls off balance, who live in handsome barracks far back of the lines and take to the air for a couple hours a day in a romantic conveyance that can outfly the birds.

Small matter that modern air-fighting is a far cry from the "knightly combat" of the World War, when enemy pilots used to pay courtesy-calls and drop wreaths on each other's airports. Small matter that air-fighting today is a combination of high-class truck-driving and grueling physical work. The illusion persists, the romance has not lost its flavor—and you can prove it by getting anyone who has ever flown an airplane to talk about it. His face lights up, his eyes take on a faraway look, and he will talk your arm off.

Well, we have men in the Brigade who can fly; they could staff a good sized squadron and leave plenty for reserve. We have men who could fly before they came to Spain; who knew before they came that they would have no opportunity to fly, and who still came to Spain—to gravel in the dirt, to dodge rifle and machine-gun fire. True, they would have preferred to fly—they would prefer it still; for there is endless satisfaction in the work you love to do. Yet they knew that for good and sufficient reason, the Spanish Government was no longer employing International fliers. It had plenty of youth of its own; youth anxious and capable of learning (and how they have learned!). It wanted to build a Spanish air-corps, and it has built one that for fighting ability has got the Fascists doing tailspins out of the Spanish skies with startling consistency.

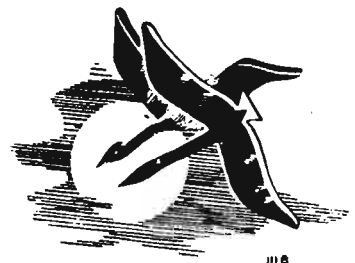
To list all the would-be aces in our outfit would take a page. Some have died as infantrymen; some have been invalided home. There was Captain Dart, for instance (what a splendid name for a pilot), former U. S. Army Air Corps Reserve. The Captain at one time was hoping to organize an all-American squadron for the Government, but the Government changed its mind.

In the Lincolns alone, you may count among the men with a yen for wings comrades like Luke Hinman, chief scout, who says he gave up flying some years ago when he got married. Not because his wife objected: she had started to learn herself—but the pair of them went broke. There is Pat Roosevelt, who was wounded in the early part of the Ebro offensive. He is a commercial pilot of many year's experience. There is Bill Reed, also

of the scouts, who spent a number of years in the U. S. Marine Corps's air-squadrons. There is Jerry Ferroggiaro, who has barnstormed around a number of countries. Ed Fliegle, Lincoln mailman has a couple hundred hours to his credit. Why even the Brigade's correspondent for the "Volunteer", Alvah Bessie, refuses to stop talking about his 25 hour's solo-time. And if you want to be plenty bored, speak to your comrade, Mac-Papier, British, 24th—it's just as likely as not that some time, some place, he learned to tell a power-dive from a tail-skid.

Aviation, by and large, is still in the hands of those elements who would not hesitate to make such use of it as we in Spain have witnessed daily—the bombing of open cities; the murder of the innocent. But it is a safe bet that when the time comes for the working people of the world to take to the air on their own wings, their squadrons of peace will be led by just such men—men who could lay aside a dream that has immense power over men, and enlist as foot-soldiers in a cause for which they felt they had to fight.

G. L.



THE BRIGADE COMMAND IN

Deep in a natural cave at the head of a baranco is the command-post of our Brigade. Here, at one time, peasants had utilized the natural shelter; filled its mouth with masonry and constructed a home. The cavern is partitioned into many large rooms, and each room is crowded with men. From each room there rises a hum of sound, the droning of conversation in a low tone, the rattle of typewriters, the buzzing of the central, the separate voice of one or another of the jefes on the telephone. For this cavern in the rocks in the central, the nerve-center of our Brigade; from it there runs a net-work, a spider-web of wires, down the mountain-side, over the barancos, to the separate command-posts of our four Battalions, deployed in front of the enemy lines—the Mac-Paps, the Lincolns, the British and the 59th. Over the wires, goes the information that coordinates our activities, that binds us together and permits us to function as an integral corps. And at the center of this web of wire, in the ion as an infatral corps. And at the man who holds all the wires in his hands, whose will and intelligence is felt at the extremities of the lines. He is a small man, as stature goes; he does not offer the stereotyped picture of the military man. But you would not need to read a record of his achievements as a commander since this war began, to feel that he knows what he is doing and that his adjutants have confidence in him. This small, "unimpressive" man is Major José Antonio Valledor. Commander of the 15th International Brigade...

MIDNIGHT:

...Candlelight has a way of distorting shadows; they wave and flutter over the stone ceiling, augmenting the atmosphere of unreality. You cannot overcome this sense of unreality, of walking and climbing through the quiet Spanish country-side, mounting the

terraces, skirting the olive trees, and then, entering a cave to find activity that should only rightly have its place (or so it seems) in some large meeting hall in some large city...

"Pongame con el cincuenta y ocho..." says the voice. Then, "Wolff... four hundred zapadores are coming up there; use them as you see fit. Hello. Oiga, oiga! Central, yo estaba hablando con el Cincuenta y ocho..."

...In the distance there is a machine-gun speaking; it has a sharp, authoritative voice in the silence of the night. There is a moon behind mottled clouds, moving in and out of them, and the night is alternately bright and then, suddenly, the light fades out of the sky. The huge black hill that the enemy is holding is afire, a creeping line of flame, like a glow worm, crawls across its face... Inside again, Valledor is standing near the doorway; he wears a short leather jacket that hangs open; his hands are in its pockets; he wears no hat. In the course of the night, that seems interminable, that is filled with mechanical and human voices. You notice that he is never alone—he is always talking to the soldiers, to his officers; he always has time to talk to his men, and there is no difference in his demeanor, whether he is talking to the Divisional Commander or to a soldier posted as a guard by the door. He is always cheerful; he gives the appearance of possessing a boundless fund of good humor; he laughs frequently, talking in a manner that is entirely characteristic of the man—short, staccato sentences...

"Digame", says the voice. "¿Quién? ¿el capitán Dunbar? Un momento."

The enemy is putting pressure on our lines to the south of X... In the past few days we have seen their black vultures in droves; we have heard the avion signal from the observers on the hill, and we



Positions on the mountain-side

have lain quiet in the shadow of the olives, the olives that will remain forever in our memories of Spain, and watched them soar overhead, bank and turn. Then we have heard the whistling, seen the "eggs" falling, felt the earth tremble under us with indignation as the roar swelled, rolled and died away. "Where are our planes", we think. And then they come. And then one day, after many days in reserve, the word came. It came at one o'clock that afternoon: "Prepare to move when the order is given." And then, two hours later, "Form on the highway and proceed toward the cross roads; there will be trucks to pick you up." The short, swift ride over the highway that was under fire from the enemy artillery... the swift march to get under cover... we were needed again to reinforce the lines, to resist, to prepare to attack.

"Where is Valledor?" says a voice, but he is not there. The Lincolns are effecting a shift of

their lines, and he has gone off to be on the spot, to aid and criticize, to see that the new positions utilize the best aspects of the broken terrain. The soldier has a worm's eye view; he rarely gets to see his Brigade Commander. But the Commander is there;



Preparing for the action—a meeting of all Commissars in the Brigade



Shell-burst

ACTION AT THE EBRO FRONT

this particular Commander is as likely as not to turn up, unobtrusively, beside a sentry at night, in the puesto de mando of a Battalion, within the sector of a company under fire. That too is characteristic of the man, just as it is a fact that this is a different sort of army. Our commanders are not likely to be found kilometers behind the lines, drinking champagne, strutting in polished cavalry boots. Do you remember Merri-man? Do you remember Doran? TWO A. M.:

...There are men stretched in their blankets against the rock walls of the cavern transmissions men, guards, runners resting temporarily from their endless rounds of the battalions; they lie in grotesque postures, like the dead, the heavy sleep of exhaustion upon them for the moment. But the hum of the central never ceases; the 59th is reporting on fortification work, the British, in reserve positions, are getting ready to move into the lines... "Digame", says the voice,



Central at Headquarters

lines before he turns in for an hour's sleep...

There is something in the night air; there is tension to be felt in both the silence and the still persistent hum of conversation; in the sound of feet coming and going. It had been felt the day before when the enemy artillery was active, when the shells dropped in the doryard of the command-post, when the vals of the cavern trembled under the load of air-bombs, when the fascist observation plane was wheeling overhead like a broadwinged vulture. Now it is felt again in the silence of this night, a silence broken only occasionally by a heavy gun in the near distance, by the rattle of our tanks moving on the main road below, the authoritative voice of the distant machine gun.

Valledor and Dunbar, chief of staff, examine maps on which the hills are numbered. Goddard speaks in his slow, precise voice. Brigade scouts and observers are listening. "That point is under observation in the daytime," one says. The



Cugouts



Dugouts

"aqui las quince. [De parte de quién?] "Damn it all", says another voice, "Goddard was there to show them where to place that anti-tank. Get busy on it." "Pón-game", says the voice, "con el Batallón Sesenta... Oiga, oiga". The candles flicker in the draft through the open doorway, where the guard stands, wrapped in a blanket; there is a hum of conversation from a point on the dirt floor where Valledor and Gates are talking...

...they are huddled close together; Gates' voice low, indistinct, Valledor's sharp, accented. These two, years apart, continents distant in culture and training, are here together in a cave in the hills of Spain, talking together in a manner characteristic of old friends who have never parted since they met, years before. Gates gets up to go; he is visiting the



Mac-Pap Battalion Headquarters

heads draw closer together over the map, the voices are lower, and just because the voices are lower, the tension seems to mount... The central buzzes continuously and Valledor bends over the phone at his side; he consults the map.

Outside the moon is uncovered and there are mules moving up the baranco; the patient, tireless beasts are bringing up endless cases of munitions. They pass over the crest of the hill on their way to the Battalions.

...You think of the men, sleeping now under the moon, men who will be in battle when the sun stands in the moon's place again; men who will suffer the agony and the beauty of combat. For there is strength and beauty in our fight. Otherwise war would be a limitless horror, a ceaseless waste of life and energy.

A. C. B.

AARON LOPOFF

During the days when we used to joke about withdrawal of the volunteers and wonder when the car was coming down the road with the tellers from the Non-Intervention Committee, Aaron used to say, "I hope they don't get here before we have another action. I want to see another action before they send us home. He was not joking; unexpressed was his desire to lead his company—better still, to test himself in the post of responsibility that had been entrusted to him. This sense of responsibility could be felt by those who were close to him in those days, and in the days that followed when we crossed the Ebro and entered the action that cost him his life. You knew he felt this responsibility and that it would be a matter of pride with him to live up to it. You would not have needed written—"Talk to cabos and sargentos;" "Co-ordinate work of sections"—you would have found these words, under the heading "Personal": "What about myself? How can my own work be improved?"

He would not have agreed that his work could not have been improved; he would never have admitted that the Command of the Lincoln considered him one of its most experienced and responsible leaders; he would have given you an embarrassed look and most likely walked away. For his modesty, as a man and a company commander, was as genuine as the necessity he felt to prove himself to himself; to test himself in still more action. "When you have a lot of other guys to worry about," he used to say, "you can't be afraid for yourself". And he was worried about those other guys; he was worried about them to a considerable extent—their too was a measure of the man's anti-fascist understanding. He wanted to spare his comrades as much as they could possibly be spared.

But he did not spare himself; he gave himself. At Hill 481 he led his men into the attack; at 666 he was in the trenches with them, snatching up a rifle with boyish exuberance, saying, "I haven't had chance to fire a rifle in a dog's age. Later that night he led his company in the attack, falling in front of the enemy's barbed wire. As he was being carried out he said, "Did they take the hill? Is the company all right?" We told him that they took the hill; that the company was doing fine and he said, "That's good."

The record is clean and consistent. He left home when he was in his early teens and hoboed all around the States. He used to describe those days with gusto, saying, "Those were the happiest days of my life." He worked his way part-way through college and, for a time, played with the idea of being an aeronautical engineer. "Then I sort of got bored," he would say. He made a living by writing fiction stories for the magazines. In Spain he joined the Brigade at Fuentes del Ebro and was in every action from that time until his death. At Batea the dark days of April, he was Adjutant to Blackie

Mahpralian, taking command of Batea that"—a man dashed up on a big white horse—it was a white horse—and said, "Congratulations, Loppy, you're a Teniente now." For a few days, while the Battalion was reassembling and Captain Wolff whereabouts were still unknown, he was Commander of the Lincoln. In May, when our new Spanish recruits came up, he was placed in command of Company 2. At Sierra de Pandols he met his death.

The death of one man merits little commentary when thousands of men, women and children are dying daily under circumstances which do not even permit them the opportunity to fight for their lives, as Aaron fought for his. And in a sense his death is a part of their deaths, just as his life was a part of theirs. But if it were possible for a man to survive his death and overhear others speak of him, we know what Aaron would have said if he had heard us say, "Too bad



Lopoff (ateleft) with one of his men

Lopoff's gone." He would have said, "Do you want my shoulder to weep on?" For it was part of his youthful sensitivity to conceal his genuine emotion under mask of indifference. But the mask rarely fit

him, and he would drop it at moments; such moments, for example, as when he spoke of Blackie Mahpralian. Then he used to say, "I came to love that guy."

A C. B.

LINCOLN NOTES

The boys are thinking of inaugurating a contest—in a purely facetious spirit—for articles on the subject: "Which was worse, Hill 666 in the Sierra Pandols, or Hill 565?" "Artillery?" says Teniente Dick Rusciano, Commander of Company One. "This was just as bad as 666, only the hill was smaller." Dick seemed to feel that because the hill was smaller, the fire must have been more concentrated... Which is something like the ancient joke about the guy who went to war in a silk hat and got a bullet through it. "Think of what would have happened to me", he said, "if I'd been wearing a cap!"... Sam Spiller, boyish enlance who is doing a man-sized job, went into the action minus a front tooth, emerged from it minus four more. "Aw", says Sam, "they were broken anyhow, so I pulled 'em out".

The Commander of Company 4 (Manny Lanser) was worried about his flanks, and sent identical notes to the Company Commanders on his right and left. "Watch my

flank", they said in effect, "I've seen movement over there". He was worried about the possibility of his Company being attacked. From Don Thayer and Sid Levine, Commanders of the 3rd and Special Machine Gun Companies, he received identical replies: "Don't worry about us", they said. "We can take care of anything that comes along"... Then there was the Company Commander who called up Captain Wolff and asked that handkerchiefs be sent up via the zapadores, who were coming up with barbed wire and sandbags. "I mes along"... Then there was the "if I don't get 'em" he said. "I got sinus trouble".

Antonio Pérez, former adjutant commissar of the Battalion, and now Commissar of Co 4, is disappointed... So is José Moltó Ybarra... It seems they organized an anti-tank group that waited night and day for the fascists to send their tanks up the baranco. The tanks were there all right, but at no time did they dare to come clo-

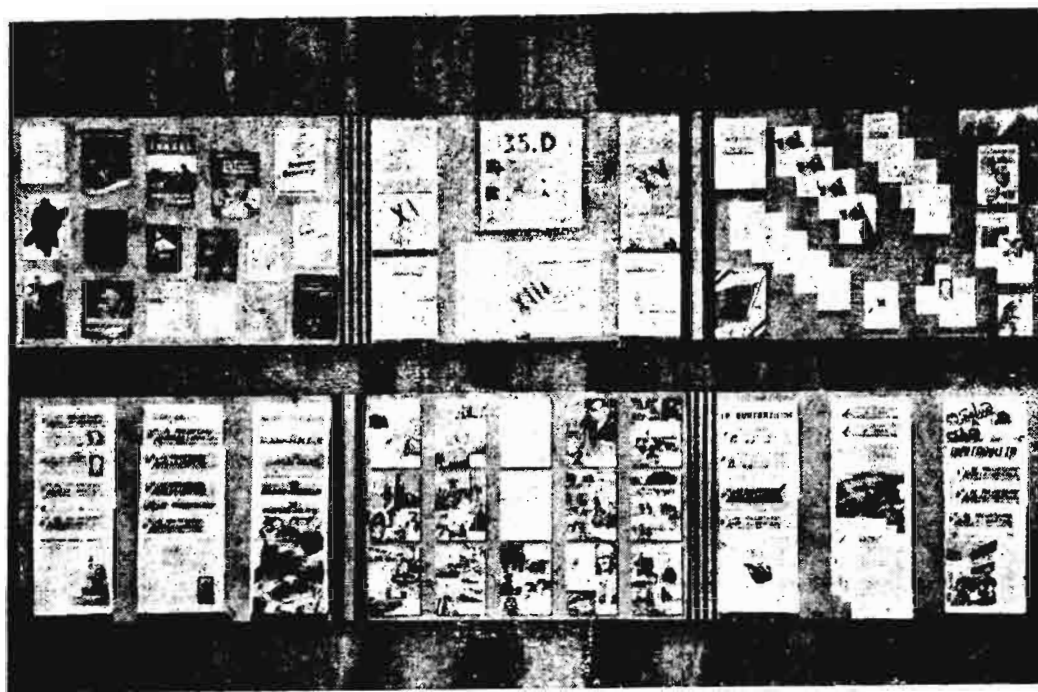
ser than a couple hundred meters... which was too far for the boys to won't be able to hold this position Don Thayer is credited with another *ben mot*; just before the Mac-Paps attacked one night, he was asked what support he could give a flanking company in the event of a fascist counter attack. "Well", he is reliably reported to have said, "I can give you my heartfelt sympathy".

The Plana Mayor of the Battalion throw their grenades... The same ion is, wondering how Luke Hinman, chief scout who is always in the thick of the action, can manage to keep so clean, well cambed, shaved and calm... And Battalion Commander Wolff is elated over the fact that he is known even on the fascist side. Seems the last night in their positions at 565 the fascists who, it is reported, sounded drunk to the last man, called over and said, "We know who you are; you're the Lincolns; we know your Commandante Lobo".

The excitement over the last action has not yet dimmed the fame of Cook Charlie Dempsey's great exploit with the ammo truck... Just after we crossed the Ebro the Battalion kitchen was moved in upon by another outfit, who parked several ammo trucks and a good many drums of gasoline among the garbanzo bins. Came the enemy avion, and eggs were added to the omelet, setting the gas tanks and one ammo truck afire. Charlie couldn't find the truck's chauffeur, so he drove it some distance off himself, and then organized his kitchen gang to put the fire out...

Battalion Headquarters finally managed to get Angel Hernández Gallego away from Company One... Angel enjoys the distinction of being the smallest soldier in the Battalion, but they didn't want him to provide contrast with El Lobo. Angel is a damned good barber.





Wall Papers of the 35 Division at an exhibit in Barcelona

MAC-PAP NOTES

Teniente Gunnar Ebb, acting Battalion Commander, refuses to be photographed, or his picture would be printed in this issue... They tell how when the first aid post ran out of iodine, coffee was used instead which they appreciate in work of their kitchen, which was invariably on time with the grub no matter how often the Battalion moved nor how much the enemy was shelling the road... A fluid known here as "champagne" (for lack of a better name), was also supplied.

The Fascists must have been filled with champagne, or something, that last night of the last action; they yelled at the Lincolns; they yelled at the 59th; they yelled at the Mac Paps... Saying, "We are Requetes and Spaniards... you are foreigners, Americans. We know who you are, you're the 15th International Brigade; we know you won't run..." Again, they shouted, "Come over to us; you will have peace, bread and prosperity." To which the boys replied, "We not only have peace, bread and prosperity- we have Paris leaves as well!"

Apropos of which, it seems that all the men (without exception) who ferreted out the information that they would be on the next list of those to visit the City of Light, came through the action unscathed.

The Mac Paps will remember:

Teniente George Carbonel, Commander of Company 4, who died in the attack which regained a hill that we had lost... A student of medicine in Madrid when the war

broke out, George enlisted immediately in the Mangada Column and fought in the Guadarama Mountain sector... On leave in Puerto Rico, he returned to Spain with his two brothers, Pablo and Victor... Pablo was killed in the defense of Teruel; Victor was wounded in the same action.

Also, Teniente Jim Hill of Oklahoma, section leader in Company One cited twice previously. Killed while making contact with another Brigade, a job that was not his to do personally, but which he felt it necessary to supervise... Also, Cabo Ben Barsky, teacher, union-organizer, music lover, killed by a fascist bullet while on duty in the observation post.

They want credit for: Teniente

Pedro Roca, baker from Almeria, a volunteer who joined the original Thaelmann Column and has been fighting ever since, Pedro joined the Makensie Papineau Battalion in August of last year, and has been in every action since. Badly wounded during a night counter-attack by the fascists.

Also, Sargento Amedée Grenier, French-Canadian volunteer who took over Company 3 when its commander, Pedro Roca was wounded, and led it into the attack. His leg badly bruised by flying rock, Amedée refused to be evacuated... Also, Sargento Andrew Malyneaux, section leader who was largely instrumental in keeping his Company 4 intact when both commander and commissar were wounded.



Gunnar Ebb

When Major E. Cecil-Smith, Commander of the Mac-Paps, was wounded at Hill 565, Teniente Gunnar Ebb, Finnish commander of Company 5 of the Battalion, became what the Spanish Army calls an "accidental" commander of the Battalion. But there is nothing accidental about Comrade Ebb; everything about the man—though he speaks no word of English and little enough Spanish—points to determination, integrity and purposefulness. His record at home in Finland, as well as here in Spain, would raise hair on a billiard-ball. Oiga!

A mason by trade, Ebb had just completed four years in a Finnish prison for political activity, when he came to Spain 17 months ago. That bare fact speaks for the firmness of his working-class convictions, his anti-fascist determination. The responsables here knew their man; his first job was in a special battalion. At Brunete when the boys were taking everything the fascists could manage to throw at them, Ebb was behind the fascist lines blowing up tanks, bridges and troop and ammunition convoys! Let your imagination work on the job and see if that hair doesn't begin to sprout.



In the lines

Joining the Mac-Paps at Teruel, he has seen every action since. At Caspe, when Makela, commander of the machine-gun company, was killed, Ebb took over. He was cited after the Batea action for his part in organizing the Battalion's resistance during the retreat. When asked exactly why he had been cited what he had done, he said, with a wry smile, "Well, the Brigade's forces were low at time and weren't many men to cite." Emerging on the banks of the Ebro at a point about 12 kilometers from Tortosa, he found a boat and rowed across, just in time to be fired at by the pursuing enemy.

The man's modesty and shyness are the talk of the Battalion; Legendary too, in the short time he has had command, is the spirit of enthusiasm his personality and presence raises in the men. They regard him as a leader and they are eager to follow him.



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MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME

In conformity with the decision of the Government, the withdrawal of the Volunteers will take place as soon as the necessary arrangements can be effected. There are a million and one details to be looked after. With all intention of speeding up this process it will take weeks before the Six to Seven Thousand Volunteers can be evacuated.

Our fight against fascism does not end with our departure. Fascism has to be fought wherever it raises its ugly head. The people in our home countries will look to us to take a leading part in this struggle and we have to prepare ourselves to live up to their expectations.

We will make our greatest contribution by bringing to them the lessons of our experiences gained in the epic struggle of the Spanish people against the foreign invaders. To do this we must acquaint ourselves thoroughly with the history of the Spanish Republic and all the problems connected with this.

Let us utilize our remaining time here to fill in the gaps in our knowledge of Spain, to clarify through study and discussions all those problems that in their complexity tend to confuse all those who fail in basic understanding.

Spain had more than her share of the slanders and deliberate distortions of truth with which the fascist and reactionary press regaled everything that is progressive in mankind. It is our duty to equip ourselves to bring the truth to the people and thereby mobilize them for maximum support for Spain.

WITH THE 59TH

Men of the 59th will long remember Hill 565. Every action is different, and it is the various aspects of the action, peculiar to that action alone, that remain in the men's minds... At 666 it was the bleak and hideous terrain, burnt over and desolated; it was the eight-hour barrage of fascist artillery... At 565 the men again suffered the strain and exhaustion of hours of heavy shelling, of aviation bombs and strafing, of heavy machinegun fire. And they will remember the heavy doses of artillery, mortars, air bombs, machinegun fire... Men of the 59th will remember the way they mowed the fascists down when they came over in frontal attacks... they will remember the attack on the tank... and the speech that Commissar Gil Cabezas made that last night in the trenches before we were relieved.

That tank charge... it was a pleasure for the men to immobilize the monster; it was the keenest pleasure that night when, led by Captain Alejandro Castillo, they went out with machinegun and hand-bombs, and literally tore the tank to pieces... With Castilla were Sergeant Francisco Blasco Gijón, Sergeant Salvador Rogel and Cabo Taish-

man Bolislav... An there was one tank less.

They will remember Captain Gerónimo Lopez Matio, commander of Company 2, who was occupying a position on Hill 287 with Company 1. When the fascists took Hill



356, he was coolly directing the placement of his automatic guns to provide crossfire; he was directing his men, fearlessly encouraging them to repulse the fascist attack. A shell bereft the 59th of a loyal and able man—one who had been in the fight since the beginning of the war and risen from the ranks.

They will remember how the fascists yelled that last night, saying they knew who we were; that we were "foreigners, internacionales, the XVth Brigade." They praised our fighting spirit and they attem-

ted to cast slurs upon it. They sounded drunk. They said we didn't have the spirit to take the Alcázar de Toledo, and they said we'd better put on our bathing suits, as we'd have to swim the Ebro pretty soon, they said we were no Spaniards.

Commissar Gil Cabezas told them off; he told them what we were fighting for; how they would find themselves the slaves of international fascism if they continued to fight, as dupes, for the German and Italian High Commands. He told them what Germany and Italy wanted in the Spain they were pretending to save from the Republic; oil, steel, food, mineral wealth. He spoke of the persecution of working men in the fascist zone, and of the "dignity" and "valor", demonstrated by one of their pilots who had fallen into our hands; how he had wept to find himself a prisoner... That he had not wept because he lost his plane, nor for fear of what might be done to him; but he wept when he discovered that the price of the crimes he and his kind were daily committing behind our lines would not be visited upon him... He asked the fascists if he sounded like a Russian to them, and he told them that we had the men and the material to wipe fascism from the soil of Spain.

For fully half an hour Commissar Cabezas spoke to them; and they did not interrupt him; and they did not answer.

"WE COULDN'T BELIEVE IT..."

Hill 666 means several things to us of the Lincolns — eight hours of unadulterated hell, for one thing. As a result of our defense of that position, our Battalion was honored by a special citation. And there we lost one of our oldest, most beloved, and most competent leaders — Joe Bianca of the Machine Gun Company. He died as he had lived, fighting in the heat of the class-struggle.

From the Cay he went to sea in 1924 (at the age of 19). Joe's life was inextricably bound up with the maritime industry. He learned very early the nature of exploitation, and as was characteristic of Joe, he carried his ideas to their logical conclusion: agitating his fellow-workers in the spirit of progressive trade-unionism. The work he undertook, in collaboration with other pioneer workers of the marine trades like 'Red' Drummond, Harry Hynes, Al Kauf-Kaufman and Tommy Kay, helped to lay the basis for the powerful National Maritime Union that we know today.

From 1926 to 1929 Joe traveled from port to port, from ship to ship, educating and organizing his brother workers. With these other seamen, he organized International Seamen's Clubs, as organs to spread the message of militant industrial unionism. And as a result of his experience he decided that the struggle for immediate demands on the economic field was not sufficient to attain permanent security for the working-class. He decided that what was necessary was a complete reorganization of society, under an organization that knew what it wanted and would go out and get it. Acting on this decision Joe became a member of the Communist Party in 1927, and it was not long before he was one of its strongest proletarian pillars and one of its best builders.

When the International Seamen's Clubs outlived their usefulness the Marine Workers League was formed, as a transitional step toward full-fledged unionism, and



by now the work of Joe and his comrades was bearing fruit. Illusions of permanent prosperity had been swiftly dissipated by the crash of 1929. In 1931 the Marine Workers' League transformed itself into the Marine Workers Industrial Union, and soe was elected to its National Bureau. Working with Roy Hudson and other seamen leaders, he resumed his travels from port to port, organizing the workers into the new militant organization. There were no funds to support even the top officers of the new outfit, and Joe had to wonder constantly where his next meal and flop were coming from. There were times when he didn't have the price of a cup of coffee, and had to sleep on the floor of the union hall.

Joe's influence for progressive action was being felt, and in 1932 he was sent as M. W. I. U. delegate to the congress of the International of Seamen and Harbor Workers in Hamburg. And when the M. W. I. U. merged with the International Seamen's Union, Joe took a leading part in fighting Scharren-

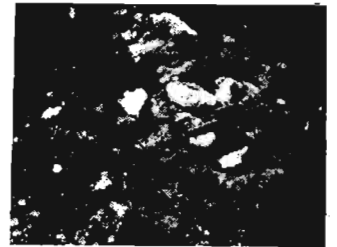
berg, the reactionary stooge of the ship-owners. Then came the west-coast tanker strike of 1935, and the west coast strike of 1937, where Joe's fighting qualities found outlet in the struggle against the owners and the forces under Harry Lundenberg. Trotskyite tool in the Sailor's Union of the Pacific.

From America's west coast to the shores of Spain was just a hop, skip and a jump for Joe. He arrived here in June of 1937, and found himself a leading spirit in the 'Seamen's Section' of the Machine Gun Company. On August 7th he joined the Lincoln-Washington Battalion, together with other replacements, and from that moment until the moment of his death he was an acknowledged leader of the men. It was during this year of ceaseless action that we all learned to love and respect this hard and fearless man, whose most outstanding characteristic was his sound common sense. Through Quinto and Belchite, on to Fuentes de Ebro and the Levante Joe was always there, giving advice, helping out, sending no one to any place he would not go himself.

The 'Big Retreat' started and

Joe devoted every moment to the section he commanded. Miraculously escaping death a dozen times, he led his men — men who obeyed every command and trusted their tried and experienced leader. From Caspe he was sent to rest in Valls, and the Bateavandesa action took place while he was on leave. But he rushed back to the front and contacted the Battalion on the east coast of the Ebro, immediately launching into the work of reorganization. He was Mike Pappas' right-hand man, and greatly through his efforts our Company was in fighting trim when marching orders came. In the days of action that followed the crossing of the Ebro he played the role that was always expected of him — he was here, there and every where, placing the guns, directing the fire.

Then the unexpected happened; something happened that we were beginning to believe was impossible. Never have I seen men so shocked as our men were when they were told that Joe was dead. We had come to believe Joe would



The grave of Joe Bianca at Sierra Pandols

never get it. We couldn't believe it for awhile, but when the fact had to be accepted there was one thought in the minds of all the men:

'There died a swell guy; one of the best this Brigade has ever seen.'

George Kaye
Machine-Gun Co. 58 Battalion



Battalion Headquarters



Fortified mountain top

"CHOFERS" as seen by one of them

Among the unsung heroes of the Ebro action are the Brigade chauffeurs who bring the men-food, munitions and material. Because they work unostentatiously and efficiently, they have become accepted in a matter of fact way, as a cog in the war-machine. And this, they know, is to their credit. For if they were to break down, the effect would be almost catastrophic for the Brigade and the men who compose it.

The Chofers Work Fast:

One afternoon the order came for swift transportation of our boys to the front. Within ten minutes the first truck pulled out, loaded, and inside of an hour the entire Brigade had been transferred. Jack Lane, Tom Lloyd, Len Beurton, Tony Rizzo, Dave Davidson, Antrim Frank and Simon Leinoff, all drove through artillery fire repeatedly and brought the Brigade up.

The Chofers Work Hard:

From the third to the eighth day after the Brigade had crossed the Ebro, six camions serviced us. The others could not get across. On the fourth day Juan Gilabert had his truck blown up almost in his face, just as he had helped carry out the last of the wounded he had driven to Ascó. On the fifth day Tony Rizzo's drive shaft jammed and «froze». Bill Allander, Antonio Munera, Jack Lane and George Garrow carried on during five days and nights of shell-fire, bombing and strafing, with no more than two or three hours sleep in twenty-four. Munitions and food to the front, wounded to the rear, over and over again.

The Chofers Work Understandingly:

Every chauffeur knew his value to the Brigade, and how necessary he was to the men. Shells or no shells, bombs or no bombs, the food went up and the men got their bullets or grenades. During our Sierra Pandols action our water wagon remained at the front eighteen out of every

twenty-four hours under the most trying conditions. «Our main difficulty», explained Henry Plotnick, the ayudante on the tank, who became twenty one in Spain, «was to keep the whole Army of the Ebro from drinking our water».

Working night and day also were mechanics Joe Zowadowski and John Pansik, and their helpers, Sargento Francisco Bernabeau and Ramon Palanca. Hauling wrecks from the front, patching trucks, trouble shooting, kept all four busier than at any time before in their lives. Freddy Pearson's water tank was shrapneled; an hour and a half later it rolled out to bring water to the kitchen, eleven bright, soldered spots on the tank. (Three empty bully-beef cans were used to stop up the holes). Bombs and shells blew up five trucks and killed one chauffeur, Johnny Koshak. Of the five camions, four are now rolling again and the motor of the fifth has since replaced one that was worn out. From the Fascists we took three trucks and a camionetta which placed our Transport a little ahead of where we started.

Working equally as fast and hard, the boys in the garage, mainly Spanish, turned broken down blown up wrecks into good stable camions. «Bring us back the frame, a few bolts and the motor», said Sargento Emanuel Arkus, Chief Mechanic, «and we'll make a truck out of it».

Dick Hanlen's truck was smashed by two bombs that landed nearby, but within three days it returned, in time to take a load across the river. The same with the Lincoln-Washington's kitchen-truck, the 59th's truck and a captured fascist camion. Body-jobs, repaired by Cabo Vicente Banuls and Emilio Martínez, were done on a mass-production scale, each body returning stronger than it had started out.

Lathe work—and there was plenty of it—helped make parts out of pipes and fittings. Smiling Cabo Antonio Torrent lived by his machine all day long, producing precision work. A former blacksmith's helper before the war, he is now an expert lathe-operator.

Pedro Riera, Vicente Soler, Salvador Serra, Juan Alberó, Francisco Villar and Francisco Molina, mechanics' ayudantes, spent many a sleepless night. The Ebro action gave them plenty of work, and a shortage of mechanics compelled them to do independent repairs.

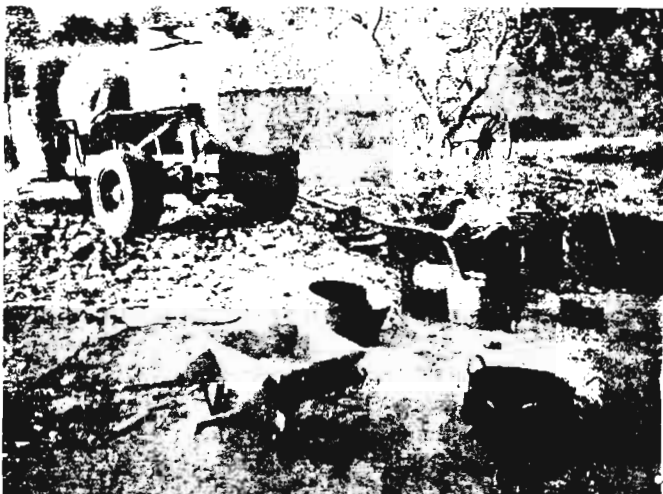
This action proved that the Brigade Transport could «take it on the chin», and still have enough camions to serve the Brigade.

EASEY GOLDSTEIN, Sargento

From the Brigade's Photo-Album



«Keep'em rolling»



The water-tank supplies the kitchen



Just a friendly game



From the Brigade's Photo-Album

Lt. Lionel Edwards—
a Canadian Officer

Firing away



Taking it easy



First Aid

Lt. Lionel Frank Edwards was the first officer of the XV. Brigade wounded in the Ebro offensive.

As the Mac-Pap Battalion advanced on Ascó, «Eddie», in command of the last Company, realized that a group of his men were working forward along a ridge that was under artillery observation. He ran back to warn them.

A battery of fascist 75 's was combing the barrancas in a futile effort to stem the swift approach of the Mac-Paps and the 59th. Just as Edwards reached the exposed ridge a shell burst almost in his face. Six men were hit.

Lt. Edwards tells about it; «A burst of flame hit me and then I was lying down yelling for First Aid. I never did lose consciousness.

«Syvanen, one of my section leaders came tearing through a cloud of smoke and sulphur and tied an emergency dressing on my shoulder where it was bleeding worst. Then hustled him up to catch up with his section and waited for the stretcherbearers to pick me up.

In a Barcelona hospital a Spanish doctor cut three chunks of shrapnel out of Eddie's shoulder, set the broken bone and told him he'd be alright—in three months.

No matter where you met Edwards you would know him for a Westerner. Blue eyes, medium height, square face, and a drawl. And a shrewdness and steadiness that come from his years of logging, goldmining, and freight-hopping in Western Canada.

He was born in a log cabin in the Pine Lake district of Alberta. His father ran a creamery and young Eddie learned to milk cows at a tender age. «But I forgot as soon as I could she assures you.

«So I ordered a retreat. The four of us ran the barrage back to our next line half a kilometer behind and sat down to count the bullet holes in our clothes.

Edwards was still a section-leader then, serving the year and half apprenticeship that fitted him to command a company. He has been with the Mac-Paps since they were organized and previous to that, he had a spell at Albacete and Pozo Rubio.

He is especially proud of reports that drift in to the hospital of the good work done by his company in the Ebro battles. But he deprecates his own part in training the company.

«It's militarily obvious, he says. «You go out and train for a while and you come back stronger».

«The main way to build a uni-

fied company that will follow orders is to push the most competent comrades to the front. That way you build up a corps of assistants. We did that with the activists and the results? Well, I am proud of them.»

His horizon broadened when his father joined the Canadian army during the World War and Lionel Frank was shipped off to relatives in England for a few years. Then back to two years at the University of Alberta—until the economic contradictions of the present system brought his education to a close.

After that, he worked in a bank, and later became credit manager of an oil company. «That was the best job I ever had» he reminisces ruefully. «But in 1929 there was a stock crash in New York and I went out on my ass».

Then came the lumber camp and gold mining period in Alberta and British Columbia, and then Spain.

«Why did I come? its hard to answer that one. Mostly because I admired the first members of the International Brigades and wanted to follow their example.»

He intends to go on following it, too. «Whenever I get back to Canada», he states, «I'll buy all the military manuals I can find and start for China. That is, unless the Chinese have already won the war by then.

«I ought to come in handy because I am a tough man to kill. The boys used to say I had a horseshoe around my neck. That was after Teruel where I was in command of that advanced post on the Mac-Paps right flank. We started with 30 men and four machine-guns. The fascists blasted hell out of us with heavy artillery and in between barrages sent their troops over to attack. But their men were too scared to get anywhere. We could see them sneaking up with their officers threatening them with revolvers. We'd let them get in to short range and murder them.

«But after two days steady artillery fire all our machine guns had been blown up by direct hits and there were just four of us still holding the position. All the rest were dead or wounded. You can call them heroic, I guess...»



From the Brigade's Photo Album



The armory



On parade



Trade union delegates addressing fiesta



During a lull in fighting



Well camouflaged



Lincolns lining up for grub



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 35

Barcelona, November 7 - 1938



COMMANDER BIDS FAREWELL TO INTERNATIONALS

It is difficult for me to put into words all I want to say about our International brothers with whom we have fought side by side for so many months.

Our people is well aware of the value of your help. When the threat of open invasion hung over our country, when the skies were filled with avions raining death and destruction on town and countryside, the International comrades showed us the way by their personal example how to resist the invasion of Hitler and Mussolini.

Your countries may well be proud to have sons such as you. Sons who put their lives in jeopardy a thousand times, who shed their blood on the soil of our beloved Fatherland in order to help a people who, not wishing to be exterminated, had thrown all its sons into the struggle: a people who preferred to die fighting rather than live enslaved.

As Chief of the XV. Brigade I can never forget the battles I have won for Spain with your help. Who can speak of the battles of Ebro without remembering immediately the 15. International Division? Who can speak of the XV. Brigade without recalling the heroic struggles of Pandols, Fatarella, Sierra de la Torre, etc?

I assure you that the heroic history of the war of independence we are now waging can never be written without speaking of the outstandingly glorious and thousand times heroic role of the International Brigades.

I am absolutely sure that you are leaving proud of having

fulfilled up to the last moment the sacred duty of defending our independence and the liberties of the free people of the entire world. I am sure that your desire for Spanish independence will not diminish when you hand over your arms to our Spanish soldiers. In this solemn moment of your departure when, for the last time, we fraternize together in close proximity to the trenches. I wish to affirm my belief that your fighting impulse, your spirit of rebellion against tyranny will not diminish with your departure or with your physical separation from the war that was forced upon us. I know well that in your distant countries you will continue to unfurl the thousand times glorious banner of Liberty before the open and hidden dictatorships, as well as before the scheming of the pseudo-democracies just as you have defended it with your own blood in the Spanish trenches.

Brother Internationals!

Before leaving for your countries accept once more the warm embrace of your Spanish comrades. Leave satisfied and proud of the sacrifices you have made for the Independence of our Fatherland and for Liberty and Democracy the world over. And you may rest assured that we, who remain fighting for universal justice on the Republican fronts are ready to come to the aid of your people if at any time they should be threatened by despotism or servitude.

Major José Antonio Valledor
Commander XV. Brigade

THE DEPARTURE OF THE VOLUNTEERS

By ANDRÉ MARTY

organizer of the International Brigades

The declaration made by Dr. Negrín on the retirement of the volunteers is of extreme political importance for the unification of all Spaniards whether in Government or Rebel territory against the foreign invaders. Those Spaniards in the rebel zone who were misinformed about the composition of the IB now cannot fail to understand the real national character of the struggle waged by the Republic. At the same time it is also an eloquent testimony of the real power of the Republican Army.

History fails to provide an other example of a head of an army in time of war who, like Dr. Negrín, had announced to officers, commissars and soldiers of proved loyalty and undisputed courage:

«You may leave!»

This simple fact demonstrates that the Republic possesses an army that is capable of defending her and this should be so considered by her friends abroad.

THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE IB

The volunteers of the IB have come from all classes, all political parties and trade unions, organizations of the world. Workers and farmers, petty artisans and tradesmen, professionals and intellectuals fought side by side in Spain, united by their desire to combat fascism. Here fought Ralph Fox, the celebrated English author who died at his post as Company Commissar at Andujar; here fought Lukács, the great Hungarian author who died fighting as a Brigade Commander at Huesca; here died the famous French surgeon, Dubois also at his post and thousands of others.

You could find in the ranks of the IB former officers of every army in the world. But the great majority of the IB was formed of men of the working class of all countries of old and young antifascist fighters. Here fought the German veteran Hans Beimler after his escape from a concentration camp shoulder to shoulder with the young French worker, Bruyères, and both of them died at their posts, comrades-in-arms against the common foe, fascism. Germans and Frenchmen, who twenty years ago had fought against each other at Verdun have here fought together as brothers for the first time in history—united by the same ideals, for freedom and democracy, threatened the world over by fascism.

UNITED IN HEROIC SELF-SACRIFICE

Many thousands of them left their lives here — we still do not know their exact numbers. Thousands of them, the bravest, the deepest thinkers, the most warm-hearted and self-sacrificing sons the working-class and humanity at large has ever produced.

And the way these men died! Let me cite an example.

«Tell the comrades of my organization», said a volunteer in mortal agony, «I died worthy of a militant... proud to die fighting for the independence of Spain because my country already has its independence!»

These men had left all their worldly goods behind to offer their lives in the service of the Spanish people. They were motivated by an ideal, by their passion for justice, by a devotion to liberty and democracy. This is the great secret of the strength of the International Brigades and this explains their unbreakable unity, their military efficiency in battle. Unity of thought and feeling against fascism. We have seen other examples of this fact which to some seem like a miracle — we have seen Republicans, Democrats, Socialists, Communists, Anarchists, a



whole people united under the banner of Republican Spain unconditionally, without expecting anything; without asking for anything. All united! A young English lad, Mackenzie, the son of a British Admiral, was fighting here and was wounded on the side of an English seaman, taking orders of that very same seaman who was one of the organizers of the mutiny of the British Navy at Invergordon. In the IB the unity is the secret of their strength and the basis of this unity is the hatred of fascism. The IB was formed of men who came to Spain to fight against fascism, accepting unquestionably the orders of the Spanish Government.

LEAVING WITH SAD HEART

The volunteers have played a historic role in the fight against fascism. Aside of their military contribution which was unquestionably important, their presence here had an undisputed moral effect — it expressed the international solidarity and the conscience of the world that is on the side of the Spanish people. Their presence here was tangible proof that the Spanish people were not left alone, were not forsaken by the world.

The volunteers are leaving with profound emotion. They all realize the correctness of the decision taken by the government. They are parting with regret from their friends and comrades, from the Spanish people whom they have learned to love, respect and admire. Politically mature, they understand the political necessity of this decision and they are carrying it out with the same precision as they would a military order. They are only waiting for definite instructions and detailed information to proceed with the evacuation.

The volunteers of the International Brigades will withdraw from Spain without placing the slightest obstacles in the way of the Republican Government, for the volunteers are only interested in one thing — the triumph of the Republic, the triumph of the Spanish people.

BIDDING THE INTERNATIONAL GOOD-BYE

The ceremonies connected with the withdrawal of the volunteers revealed in a dramatic form the deep bonds of affection existing between the Spanish people and the Internationals. Countless number of letters by individuals, organizations, combatants and civilians keep pouring in, all expressing the same thought and sentiment, appreciation and gratitude, the same high respect for these men of ideals and principle who came here to sacrifice their lives, if need be, to aid the Spanish people.

The endless chain of fiestas on Company, Battalion, Brigade, Division and Army Corps scale; the fiestas in the villages, towns, provinces with all their gayety and exuberance carried the same *leit-motif* — the mutual feeling of genuine regret at parting, the knowledge that time will never erase the love the Internationals and Spanish people carry for each other in their heart.

It would be physically impossible to give a lengthy description to every one of these fiestas. We

limit ourselves to the description which we publish below:

A farewell festival in honor of the International Volunteers of the 35th Division was celebrated on Sunday, October 17 — precise day of the second anniversary of the birth of the International Brigades in Albacete — with an unprecedented spirit of genuine comradeship and enthusiasm between Spaniards and Internationals.

During the morning hours a colorful parade of Internationals of the Division took place, reviewed by officials of the Inter-Brigades and officers of the Army of the Ebro. The stolid Germans of the 11th, the indomitable Poles of the 13th, the plucky U. S., British, Cuban and Canuck lads of the 15th, marched down from around the mountain bends, presenting to the reviewers, Reus and Barcelona civilian delegations, a brilliant and inspiring scene of antifascist soldiery: order, discipline, a cadence that carried with it two years of hardening experiences, from Madrid to Cordoba, Guadalajara to



At the reviewing stand — from left to right top row, Luigi Gallo, André Marty and Divisional Commander Merino



At the British Battalion feast

Teruel, Aragon and Ebro.

When the parade was over, a dinner was held in a courtyard where present among others, were André Marty, founder and Luigi Gallo, Commissar-Inspector of the International Brigades, Lt. - Col. Hans, until recently Commander of the 45th Division and Ludwig Renn, famous exiled German author.

Honor cards for valiant service to the Spanish cause were presented by José María Sastre, Commissar of the 35th Division, first to André Marty, then to Comrade Gallo and to other chiefs of the different units, among whom figured John Gates, former Commissar of the 15th Brigade, Majors Milton Wolff, Cecil Smith and Sam Wild.

«The Spanish comrades have been thanking us for our contribution toward Spanish democracy», said Comrade Gallo, in his brief talk after dinner, «but I want to take this opportunity, in the name of all Internationals, in the name, in particular, of the men who came from countries under fascist terror, of our German, Polish and my own Italian countrymen who are daily struggling against their fascist oppressors in these lands, to thank the Spanish people for their courageous and unvacillating stand they have taken from the start of the war and continue to take in the face of treachery of the democracies. I want to thank this brave people for giving us the chance to fight shoulder to shoulder with them against our common fascist enemy of civilization».

Comrade Marty outlined the role of the true volunteers, ridiculing the Moorish, German and Italian mercenaries whom the traitor Franco brought over from other lands to strangle democracy

in Spain. «With a mad dog, we cannot fool», he said, «we must annihilate it. Fascism is a mad dog and we shall kill it».

Among his closing words were: «The true volunteers leave their rifles and depart from Spain to carry on the battle against fascism in their own lands. The battlefront for them will now be in Varsovia, Paris, London, New York, wherever the volunteer returns, his voice will be raised in defense of the Spanish people and against fascism. They leave their rifles as a weapon and take up the instrument of propaganda for the Republic of Spain.»

Mateo Merino, commander of the 35th Division was hailed with a storm of applause for his recent ascension from Major to Lieutenant-Colonel by the Spanish Government.

Dancing took place in the late afternoon and evening. The Division band provided American, Spanish and Catalan dance music.

Cries to hear from Lt. - Col. Tagüeña and Commissar Fulsimaña, chiefs of the 15th Army Corps (in which the 35th Division is incorporated), who were present at the dance, were echoed throughout the crowded hall. Comrade Fulsimaña spoke first, bidding farewell to the International Volunteers and asserted that the People's Army will know how to carry on the splendid tradition of the International Brigades on all fronts. He added that the greatest tribute to the memory of the outgoing volunteers will be paid by smashing fascism on Spanish soil.

Lt. - Col. Tagüeña laid emphasis on the new powers of the Peoples Army and told how the Internationals helped in the creation of this Army.

JOHN TISA

The History of the Mac-



In the front lines at Sierra Pandols

The Canadian Mac-Paps, one of the hardest fighting units in the International Brigades, have blazed a trail of important military achievements since Oct. 13th, 1937 — the day they received the best and longest training any battalion had received up to that time. The Mac-Paps were called into their first action on October 13th at Fuentes de Ebro. Every man was ready, every man was eager and when the order came to go over the top the Battalion gave a good account of itself. The only criticism that may be advanced is that the boys were a bit too daring and too reckless — a characteristic they share in common with all the Republican troops. From the days of the first Fuentes battles the name of the Mac-Paps has become known throughout Spain. In those early days the Mac-Paps were led by Capt. Bob

Thompson and Commissar Joe Dallet. Capt. Thompson has since returned to the United States suffering from sickness and his early wound and Commissar Dallet fell in the Fuentes battle at the head of his troops.

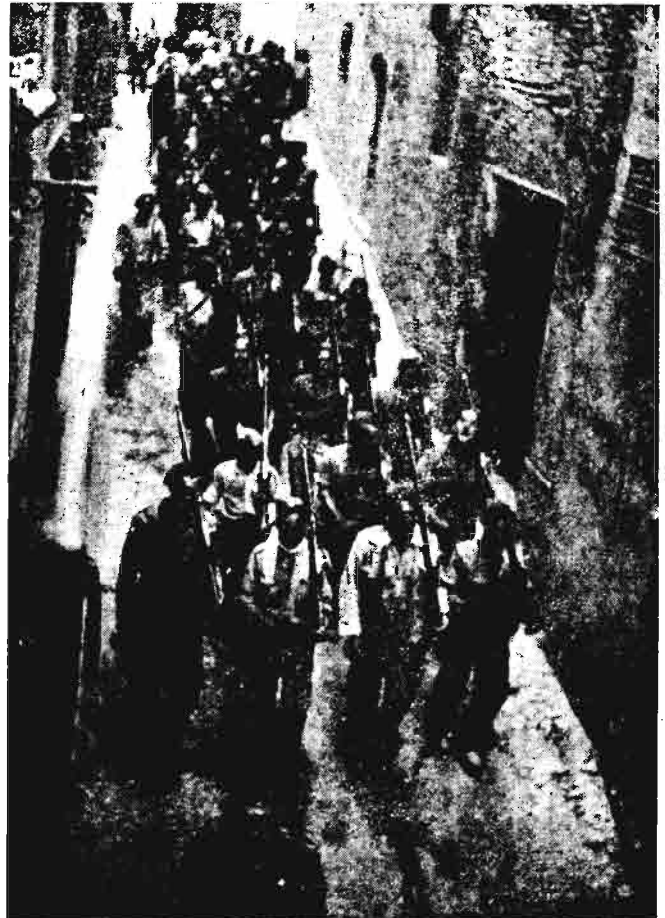
It should be explained that the presence of Americans and Spaniards in the Canadian Battalion is due to the policy of 'mixed brigades' followed by the Republican Army — a good way to promote international solidarity and to increase fighting efficiency.

The comradeship between Canadians, Americans and Spaniards who fight fascism shoulder to shoulder can serve as an example to the people back home to unite, against the spreading fascism in Canada. Undoubtedly the volunteers who are returning from the Spanish struggle will contribute much to the anti-fascist movement in Canada.

It was while the Battalion was at rest in an old Spanish castle at Tazuela de Torres that the outstanding Canadian Volunteer — Captain E. Cecil Smith joined the Mac-Paps. Sol Wellman was then Battalion Commissar, taking over the post formerly held by Joe Dallet. Smith's former military knowledge and Canadian background fitted him eminently for the post of Commander to which position he was soon promoted. Since then his name has been identified with every action of the Mackenzie-Papineau Bat-

Company Three of the Mac-Paps made its legendary stand here. Under the leadership of Lieut. Lionel Edwards of Edmonton this company held its trenches while the enemy artillery was literally blasting the top off the hill. The German artillerists expected anyone to remain alive in that sector after that terrific barrage and confidently advised an attack.

Our boys, who clung to their battered trenches despite the terrific shelling permitted the enemy to advance within rifle and ma-



Mac-Paps marching to anniversary festa



Major Smith and Frank Rogers, the Commander and Commissar of Mac-Paps

talion. It was soon after Captain Smith joined the Battalion that the Mac-Paps performed that outstanding feat in the defense of Teruel during the cold days of January.

Without a doubt Teruel was the outstanding battle of the year for the Mac-Paps. The entire XV. International Brigade composed of American, Canadian, English and Spanish Battalion was called upon to defend the newly-won Republican victory at Teruel. During the heaviest artillery barrage of the war, a barrage unequalled until then in intensity and accuracy, the Mac-Paps held a vital sector of the front.

Machine-gun range and then opened devastating fire on them, driving the fascists back with enormous losses. The enemy was completely routed. Recalling the Teruel days the boys in the Battalion still refer to that position as 'Suicide Hill' or 'Edwards' Hill'.

The heroism of the Canadians at Teruel won the praise not only of our own Army Command but of the war correspondents and Military Observers from Britain and the United States as well. The Battalion received a special citation of bravery from the Army and Captain E. Cecil Smith was promoted to the rank of Major for his brilliant leadership in the ac-

Kenzie-Papineu Battalion



At Fuentes de Ebro

tion. The Mac-Paps were next herad from in the later part of February when plans were being discussed for a «golpe de mano», a surprise attack far behind the enemy lines. For this dangerous mission the Mac-Paps and the Lincoln-Washingtons were chosen — the Mac ap's leading the way



At the anniversary fiesta

through a break in the enemy lines — moving quietly but swiftly during the night. They reached their objectives none too early and at the first crack of the dawn they pounced on the enemy fortifications on a high hill. Taken completely by surprise the enemy put up very little resistance and in a few minutes it was all over. «The fascists were caught with their pants off» is how the men describe the action. Much credit for the successful action must be given to the heroic lads who volunteered to crawl up the Seguro de los Baños hill and cut the barbed wire in advance of the attack.

When the fascists started their large scale spring offensive early March the Mac-Paps were put into the lines at Azuara. It was the «big push» of the fascists but only another fight for the Mac-Paps as they went into the lines. The enemy attacked with overwhelming forces and the pressure was so great that orders for retreat were given. But the lines of communications were broken and the order failed to reach the Battalion. Practically surrounded,

the answer to all appeals to retire was:

«We have no orders except to hold the lines» — signed Majorm Smith.

When the order to retreat was finally communicated the Mac-Paps had to fight their way out of the enemy encirclement. was trek from Azuara to Lecera, a long and arduous one. The fascists pushed ahead with fast moving whippet tanks and the tired troops received the order to hold the enemy advance at all costs to give time to the reorganization of our forces. The Mac-Paps had to make a stand against the advancing tanks. Tanks are calculated to cause panic and fear but the Mac-Paps, with only rifles and machine-guns — and with concentrated fire — stopped them at Lecera.

The enemy continued its overwhelming pressure reinforced by heavy artillery and hundreds of bombing and strafing planes and the order came to retreat to Caspe. These were tragic days, no rest, no sleep, no food for days.

At Caspe the Mac-Paps were ordered to counter-attack the enemy positions on Cemetery Hill. Led by the heroic Captain Mill Mafela, and with only limited arms they drove the enemy from the hill. Advancing with strong forces the enemy reoccupied the hill and after a brief rest the Mac-Paps made another counter-attack despite the terrific odds. Captain Makela received a mortal wound in this action but his name will live on forever as a symbol of Canadian heroism in Spain.

During the March offensive the fascists had to pay dearly for every inch of progress. The next battle was at Gandesa where the Mac-Paps and the British held off six tank attacks. This stand enabled our forces to prepare the Ebro river defense which permanently syopped the fascist offen-



In the front lines near Gandesa

sive. One cannot speak of the fight at Gandesa without paying tribute to Lient. Sol Rose, who later became Battalion Adjutant. His courage and antifascist convictions inspired everyone to get into the battle.

Those March days were tragic days for the Battalion. Everyone's faith in victory was tested. The Government issued the slogan; «Resistance is victory!» Many doubted. Others could not understand. But today this slogan is understood by all and it a living reality.

Our successful Ebro River crissing offensive was a revenge for our fallen comrades. The important role played by the Mac-Paps in these Ebro battles is being told elsewhere. The Republican Army is on a forward march on all the fronts. And when the history of this war is finally written, the hard fighting Mac-Paps will be given a prominent place in the victory of Republican Spain.

FRANK ROGERS
Comm. Mackenzie-Papineau Bon.



Sol Rose, Battalion adjutant, killed in action near Gandesa



Mac-Paps posing with their flag in front of Canadian ambulance

FROM ASTURIAS TO RIO EBRO



B. H. Q. at Sierra Pandols

II

The Brigade crossed the Ebro as if on manouevr. Squad after squad rushed the riverbank, embarked in boats, rowed across, clambered quickly up the mountains on the other side of the river. The intense period of training and manouevrs has born fruit. The «beefers» who had resented the «silly night manouevrs» where they were ordered to approach a dried out riverbed silently, take a short sprint in small groups, crouch down and row with imaginary oars, jump and run fast for the nearest cover now realized the wisdom underlying «this play-acting».

The crossing took on the appearance of a beach party. The Ebro river which for months had presented an insurmountable barrier to the fascist advance, yielded easily to the audacious attack of the Republican Army. Men and Command were equally jubilant. Valledor stood on the exposed beach with his Staff unmindful of the fascist 75's, supervising the operation and as the crossing proceeded in quick order he kept on exclaiming jubilantly:

«Look at them. Just like on manouevrs!».

The Battalions that crossed rapidly reformed their lines on the other side and advanced cross-country over the mountains towards their objectives.

The Brigade made rapid progress. The fascists, completely underrating the offensive capacity of the reorganized Republican Army, concentrated most of their troops at the Levante for a drive on Valencia, leaving the Ebro sector denuded. Their remaining troops, comparatively few in numbers, were taken by surprise and offered but sporadic resistance. The Lincoln-Washington and the 59th Battalions moved towards Fatarella wiping out all resistance on the way while the Mac-Paps after a brief fight took Ascó with defending garrison, batteries and all. The

Attacks and counterattacks. — "Just like in Asturias!" — Major Valledor exults as the Brigade proceeds to administer defeat after defeat to the fascists

By SANDOR VOROS

(Former Chief of the Commissariat of the XV International Brigade)

British Battalion advanced on the left flank protecting the rear of the 13th Brigade and clearing the mountains of the few bands who were putting up a desperate resistance.

The end of the day's fighting found the 35. Division a few kilometres south of Gandesa, fully 24 hours ahead of its schedule. Corbera was ours, taken by the 13.

reached the fascists they reacted with fury. In a few hours Italian and German planes literally darkened the skies looking for the advancing troops and bombing everything within sight. The Fascists were rushing up troops, artillery and tanks, depending on their airforce in the meantime to paralyze the advance by destroying bridges, bombing communication lines, and

resumed their march. The planes strafed and bombed but the trained troops did not panic and consequently suffered few casualties. Subjectively, these bombings had an adverse effect to that they intended to create. After being bombed and machine-gunned repeatedly by dozens of planes with hardly any casualties the men gained in confidence and even the new recruits discovered to their own satisfaction that aerial bombing in the field is far less effective than the imagination may make it appear.

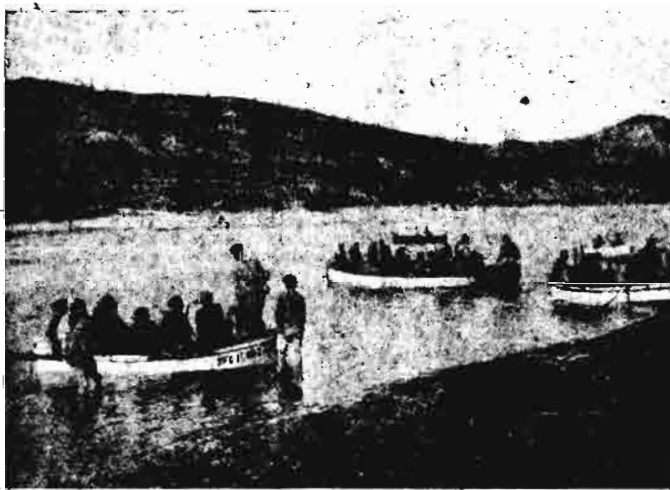
The troops halted at night, tired but jubilant. They have marched all night and all day without food or water; they have crossed the river and penetrated far into fascist territory; they have fought and routed the enemy capturing prisoners and valuable war material; they have been bombed and strafed over and over again and proved they can take it; the new recruits, mostly Catalan youth, acquitted themselves creditably under their first fire — they had all reasons to be jubilant. They were full of fight and impatient to go on. They had confidence in their leadership — Major Valledor and his Staff was always on the spot, advancing with the vanguard and giving personal direction to the operations.

By next day the fascist resistance stiffened materially. They managed to bring up heavy reinforcements at the cost of discontinuing their Levante offensive — the main objective of the Republican Army in crossing the Ebro. They had artillery and tanks while the Republican troops were still limited to machine guns and rifles alone since the bridges over the Ebro were destroyed by bombing as fast as they were being put up due to lack of anti-aircraft defenses.

To meet the stiffened resistance the Division assigned the British and Mac-Pap Battalions to the 13 Brigade in whose sector they were operating. This left Valledor temporarily in command of only two Battalions, the Lincoln-Washingtons and the 59th. No Commander ever likes to part with any part of his troops even temporarily but Valledor did not show a trace of resentment. Victory over the enemy was his only consideration, personal ambition or vanity never entered his make-up.

His concern for these troops manifested itself in another way. Although the British and Mac-Paps were outside of his command and responsibility for them rested with the 13th Brigade, Valledor would visit them in broad daylight disregarding the artillery barrage and assist them with badly needed supplies.

When, after two weeks of intense fighting, of attacks and counter-attacks, the troops were relieved for a few days of rest and the Brigade was reunited Valledor was as happy as if at a family reunion. He dipped into his private stock



Crossing of the Ebro

Brigade which formed the spearhead of the attack.

The advance was not all smooth sailing. While many of the enemy forces were clearly demoralised and offered but feeble resistance, some of their troops held on desperately on the mountain tops and had to be dislodged by assault and handgrenades. And then, the fascist aviation!

Their observation plane appeared early in the morning. One flight over the river was enough. After dropping its load of bombs it scurried back with the report—sped on its way by volleys of rifle and machine-gun fire from the ground.

The first encounter with the plane demonstrated the effectiveness of the anti-air training. Instead of ceasing all activity while the plane was overhead the men opened fire on it, forcing it up to such high altitude that its bombs fell wide from the mark despite the dense concentration of troops on the riverbank.

As soon as news of the offensive

forcing the advancing troops to lie down and take to cover.

The planes followed the same tactics that had proved so effective during their Aragon offensive. They came in threes, in sixes, in dozens and at times in groups as many as 50-60 heavy bombers with their complement of innumerable chasers,—Flats, Heinkels, Dorniers and Messerschmidts of all types and armaments. They would circle overhead slowly, going around and around with an overpowering roar of the motors to strike terror into the heart of all living; to serve notice that they see everything and nothing alive can escape their observation; to panic the infantry with a terrific doom of inevitable destruction.

Impressive as the circus was it did not work this time. Disregarding the planes the troops continued their rapid forward march taking to cover only when the planes were heading straight towards them. Immediately the planes passed overhead the troops

and dished out cigarettes to everybody within reach; he solicitously inquired about the health of everyone; he was open with praise and eager to discuss details; he shook hands, patted shoulders and peremptorily ordered the writer who had been with the British during the offensive to have his two weeks growth of beard shaved off immediately. He knew about everything and was ready to listen to everybody, exhibiting an intimacy with his men that normally would take long months to acquire.

Going back to the lines at Sierra Pandols, the Brigade had the task of holding back the fierce fascist counter-attacks that had as their objective, as widely announced in the world press, to drive the Republican Army back to the other side of the Ebro. The fascists attacked with an intense concentration of artillery and avion bombardment without a let up for days, squandering men and material recklessly but the Brigade held fast.

When the Brigade moved in there were hardly any fortifications. For the most part the men had to find whatever little cover there was behind rocks and crevices, in shell craters and in shallow trenches hardly a foot or two deep. The rocky mountain tops lent themselves little to fortification work but Valledor came from Asturias where he had learnt how to face such obstacles. Under his orders fortification work was carried on ceaselessly with notable results. The first days flying rock caused almost as many casualties as shrapnel but as fortification work increased the number of casualties sharply declined. Valledor worked with untiring energy, visiting positions, ordering improvements. On one of these tours a shell landed



In battle — Sierra Caballs

right in the midst of his party mortally wounding captain Schmidt, Chief of the Engineers, who was walking on his side. Valledor was deeply moved by the loss of this capable comrade but continued with his tour.

When the Brigade left Sierra Pandols it turned over to the relieving troops a network of fortifications that was able to withstand the heaviest bombardment; fortifications that had enabled the Brigade to repulse attack after attack, forcing the enemy to retire in disorder and leave the fields strewn with the bodies of some of their best, shock-troops. The Division Order citing the Brigade for exemplary work was well deserved by men and Commander alike.

After a few days rest the Brigade was again called into action under conditions that would try any but the stoutest hearts. After a concentration of artillery fire and aerial bombardment that surpassed world war intensity and which literally blasted the top off the mountains where our defending

forces were located, the fascist succeeded in forcing a breach which, unless countered immediately, might have resulted very seriously. The Brigade was given the urgent task to bridge the gap immediately and hold up at all costs the fascist infantry which was advancing with tanks behind the terrific barrage.

When the call came the Brigade was in reserve, in an other part of the front, quite a few miles away from the threatened sector. It was broad daylight with planes continuously overhead, a time where any movement of troops was bound to evoke immediate response from the artillery and planes.

Speed was all important. The troops had to get there in time or it might be too late. Valledor did not hesitate.

The Battalions were immediately assembled and rushed to the threatened sector. To speed up the movement Valledor, with an audacious move, ordered the troops to be transported by the brigade trucks over the shell-swept highway which

was under open artillery observation. His calculations proved to be correct. The artillery and aviation was so preoccupied with the sector under immediate attack that the highways were overlooked and the transport of troops was accomplished without casualties. By the time the artillery recovered from its surprise and began paying serious attention the troops were moving into counterattack over the fields. In less than two and half hours from the time of the order the Brigade was exchanging shots with the enemy, stopping their advance.

In the ensuing operations Valledor got into his full stride. This was the type of warfare he was accustomed to in the Asturias—defensive warfare, defense by manoeuvre and counter-attack, holding on to every inch of the ground, never overlooking a favorable position either for defense or as a starting point from where to launch an offensive.

The Battalions responded splendidly. Time after time they turned back attacks by tanks with machine-gun fire and hand-grenades. At one time the fascists attacked with 27 tanks, sending 10 tanks against the Lincoln-Washington alone.— the attack was repulsed. One company of the 59th Battalion, composed entirely of Spaniards, turned back six tanks by rifle fire putting one entirely out of commission.

Sticking to their post even under the most intense barrage, they mowed down the attacking fascist infantry and counter-attacked with unflinching courage whenever they received the order. The Mac-Paps made six attacks in a single day. They faced the best shock-troops of Franco, the Navarees, Terlos, and Moors and inflicted terrific casualties on them.

During one of these attacks they brought down a fascist plane by rifle fire — a feat that caused boundless enthusiasm and, incidentally, gave rise to considerable rivalry since each Battalion claimed the honor for its own.

One of the outstanding feats of this action was taking a commanding height from the fascists by a brilliant maneuver in which the British and the 59th Battalions played the prominent roles.

«The Brigade has worked as one unit throughout», commented Valledor afterwards, «and has again demonstrated that it could be depended on under any and all conditions. Tanks are not phantastic monsters and our men learned how to make them turn back fast. The Brigade knows how to carry out orders with audacity, speed and accuracy. And the basis of all this is the excellent spirit of friendship and co-operation between our Spanish and International comrades».

The battle of Ebro is far from being over. The Internationals had been withdrawn. But every single one of them feels secure that the XV Brigade, under the able leadership of this Asturian, will keep on adding many more glorious chapters to the history of the Republican Army.



Valledor visiting the British Battalion near Gandesa

THE BRITISH VOLUNTEERS

The first British volunteers arrived in Spain in October 1936. They came singly at first, then in small groups. By December they were coming in hundreds and early in January they were able to form a complete Battalion, becoming the foundation Battalion of the XV. Brigade.

When the Battalion went into action in February at Jarama it was fortunate to have within its ranks a company which had already gone through the baptism of fire. The first English speaking company — now the Major Attlee Company — composed of British and Irish volunteers did valiant work during December and January on the Cordoba and Madrid fronts. It joined the British Battalion on the eve its departure in February.

From that day to this, the British Battalion, now the oldest Battalion in the XV. Brigade has taken part in every action in which the Brigade has fought. Its history is one of sacrifice, heroism and endurance that could only be found in a Battalion of



British Battalion on march

peculiarities of the type of fighting in Spain. Lack of arms and pressure of time has robbed them of the opportunity for adequate training. The Jarama campaign was a baptism of such a fierce and sudden character, fought under

in every one of them the British volunteers have brought honour to their country. Who can mention Teruel without remembering the British Battalion which for nearly a month held and improved its positions in face of the most cruel

had gone and disaster seemed inevitable.

At Caspe, surrounded by machine guns and tanks, the Battalion again fought its way out. When Sam Wild, Battalion Commander, and a number of others were captured they used their fists in good old British style and got away. Three times the Battalion was driven back by withering artillery and machine gun fire. Three times it went forward again at tremendous cost until ordered to withdraw by the Brigade.

At Gadesa, reduced to 70 men — with the other Battalions 600 — it held the road all day on that vital 2nd of April. It repulsed six attacks by tanks and did not budge an inch in face of the continuous artillery fire. By its stand that day the Battalion gave the main army time to cross the Ebro and blow up the bridges thus bringing to an end the fascist advance.

Now the British Battalion has fought its last action as an International Battalion. In the first Ebro offensive the Battalion has fought in the glorious traditions of Jarama. The epic of Hill 481 is too fresh in the memory, the thoughts of



At the Battalion fiesta

high morale and deep political conviction.

The enemy knows the stuff of which our Battalion is made. Against it both here and in Britain a stream of lies and misrepresentations have been directed by Franco and his friends. How many times have they announced the wiping out of the Battalion? Yet in subsequent battles, could they still speak, many Moors, Italians and Phalangists could have testified sadly to the contrary.

From every one of its actions the Battalion has been able to draw some lesson. In every succeeding battle it has gone in more highly trained, able to deliver more powerful blows to the enemy. Today it is at the height of its glory and is the pride of the British Labour Movement.

Looking back at some of the feats of the Battalion one marvels at the endurance, the heroism and capacity for sacrifice that has been displayed.

At Jarama the volunteers had practically no knowledge of the

the worst possible conditions, that even if no other action had been fought, the record of the Battalion would still be an epic.

In subsequent actions the high traditions of Jarama were well maintained. There is not sufficient space available for me to detail the various campaigns but

artillery barrage which the war had up to then produced?

In the tragic days of March and April, 1938, when the defeatists and pessimists were at their loudest, the Battalion fought to the last ditch for every position.

At Belchite it fought its way out of the town when its flanks



Part of the staff — British Battalion



At the Battalion fiesta

comrades who fell too painful to allow of an adequate description. It is a story that will thrill generations to come — the story of action that won for the British Battalion the title 'Shock Battalion of the XV. Brigade'.

And those who return — they return with the pride of men who have made history. They have saved the honour of their country. They have proved to the brave people of Spain that the real Britain is their friend and has nothing in common with Chamberlain.

They go home to launch such a campaign as will rouse the entire country and drive this Government of Chamberlain into the oblivion it deserves.

We have confidence in you. You will go forward with the aid which the Internationals will mobilize in the democratic countries to complete victory and independence for Spain.

Bob Cooney

Commissar, British (57th) B'oa.

AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS IN SPAIN

Of all the International volunteers the Americans were the last ones to appear on the scene in Spain. The first volunteers were mostly from the neighboring countries, mainly from France. Only when the struggle had shown indications of becoming a prolonged one did the Americans come to Spain in considerable numbers.

Aside from a few individuals, the first organized group of American volunteers arrived in Spain on January 5, 1937. In a few weeks enough of them had arrived to form a Battalion of their own, the Abraham Lincoln Battalion. They went into action for the first time in the middle part of February at Jarama and though the majority had only two or three weeks previous military training and the rest none at all, they gave a good account of themselves right from the start. Only when the Jarama front became a stationary one did they have a chance to start training in earnest — right in the front lines.

While the Lincolns were holding the lines at Jarama, new volunteers kept arriving every month. Soon there was enough of them to form a second Battalion, the George Washington. When the XV. Brigade entered the Brunete offensive on July 6, 1937, it was able to draw on two American Battalions, the Lincoln and the Washington. Both Battalions did exceedingly well in the offensive, so much so that they received special mention and from then on the Americans were counted as on par with the best International troops. Quite an accomplishment. Quite an accomplishment for the other International troops were composed, for the most part, of seasoned men, many of them with years of previous military service and world war experience.

During the Brunete offensive the two American Battalions were merged into one, taking on the name of Lincoln-Washington Battalion.

The Lincoln-Washington Battalion participated in every engagement fought by the XV. Brigade. Quinto, Belchite, Puentes de Ebro, Teruel, Seguros de los Baños, the defense of Aragon and the Ebro offensive are forever linked with the name of the XV. Brigade and the Lincoln-Washington Battalion.

The fighting ability displayed by the Lincoln Washington Battalion was to a large extent, responsible for the gradual changing of public opinion in the United States towards Loyalist Spain. Even the most reactionary American newspapers couldn't help but feature the feat of arms performed by their valiant countrymen in Spain.

It would take volumes to relate in detail all the individual acts of bravery performed by the American volunteers of the Lincoln-Washington Battalion and in the other units where they served. For the participation of the American volunteers did not limit itself to this battalion alone. The two English speaking Batteries, the John Brown and the Second Battery both had a large contingent of American volunteers. Americans had also played an important part in transportation and in the organization of the First Regiment of Train. And last, but not least, there were the American doctors and nurses sent by the Medical Bureau, who came to well earned fame by their own right.

The American volunteers represented a cross section of contemporary America. Sons of rich and poor, farmhands and factory workers, students and teachers, college professors, seamen, clerks and white collar workers, artists, writers, painters, newspapermen — there is hardly any calling in life that lacked representation. Descendants of the early American pioneers' men from every state of the Union, Negro and White, native born and Americans of foreign extraction fought shoulder to shoulder with their Spanish brothers united by a principle, by the common

love of freedom, democracy and peace.

Fighting with the Americans from their first action on was an important group of Central and South Americans — volunteers from Cuba, Mexico, Argentina — the bravest of the brave.

The chapter of the International Brigades has closed. Their historic mission finished, the volunteers are leaving for home. But the lessons they have learned here will never be forgotten. As the American volunteers have stated in their farewell message over the radio:

« Fighting shoulder to shoulder with our heroic Spanish comrades we have learned more in these months from our personal experiences than we could have learned from book in fifty years at home.

« We have learned how to rip off the demagogic mask of fascism to expose its full savage barbarity that lies beneath it. We have seen « Christianity defended » by Moors, and the massacre of hundreds of thousands Catholics in the name of « Christianity ». We have seen Catholic priests hanged, shot, murdered by the fascist hordes because they chose to remain faithful to faith. We have seen a country invaded, her innocent people, men, women, and children butchered her towns, villages razed to the ground. And we know that the same fate awaits our own country, our own people unless fas-

cism is checked, and checked in time.

« We are departing with a lesson that we learned from you in Spain. This lesson was sealed in blood, in the blood of hundreds of our best friends and comrades, the bravest sons America has produced. But this lesson, bought at the highest price, may well be the salvation of not only America, but of all humanity — if acted upon in time.

« This lesson is the strength that lies in unity; the strength of a people united in a government of a genuine People's Front — in the interest of the people themselves.

« We have learned that fascism can never conquer a country whose people are united; that fascism can be brought to its knees by a people who rise against it; that fascism can be smashed by a people who value their freedom above everything else.

« We are departing full of confidence in the ability of the heroic Spanish People's Army to bring this war to victory.

« And we are leaving with a promise — a pledge, solemn and grave — that we will not rest a single minute until the « arms embargo » is lifted to permit Spain to obtain the arms she needs — and that we will dedicate our lives to help to smash fascism forever so that freedom, peace, and democracy prevail.

TO ENGLAND

from the English dead

We, who were English once had eyes and saw
The savage greed of those who made this war
Tear up from earth, like a hog loose in flowers
So many lives as young and strong as ours,
You, England, stood apart from Spain's affair,
You said you were secure in sea and cliff
While others sank in filthy war, as if
You kept some old virginity in there.
While the black armies marched and the dead fell,
You toldeo your English people all was well,
And shutting eyes to war was finding peace.
You told them once, all slavery must cease.
Dishonourable England! We in Spain
Who died, died proudly, but not in your name;
Our friends will keep the love we felt for you
Among your mist green landscapes and smoot hills,
Talk of it over honest window sills
And teach our children we were not untrue.
Not for those others, more like alien men
Who, quick to please our slayers, let them pass,
Not for them
We English lie beneath the Spanish grass.

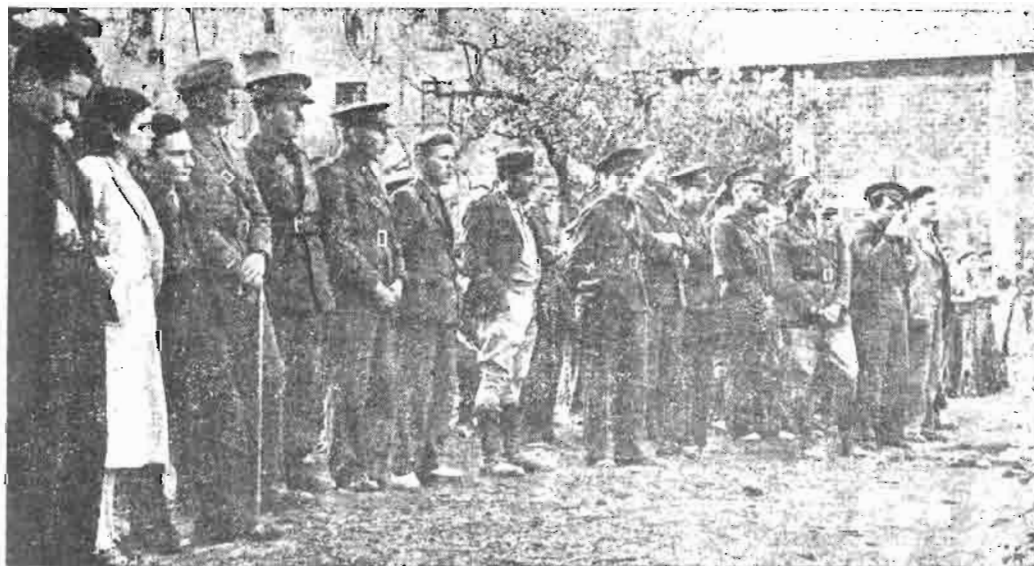
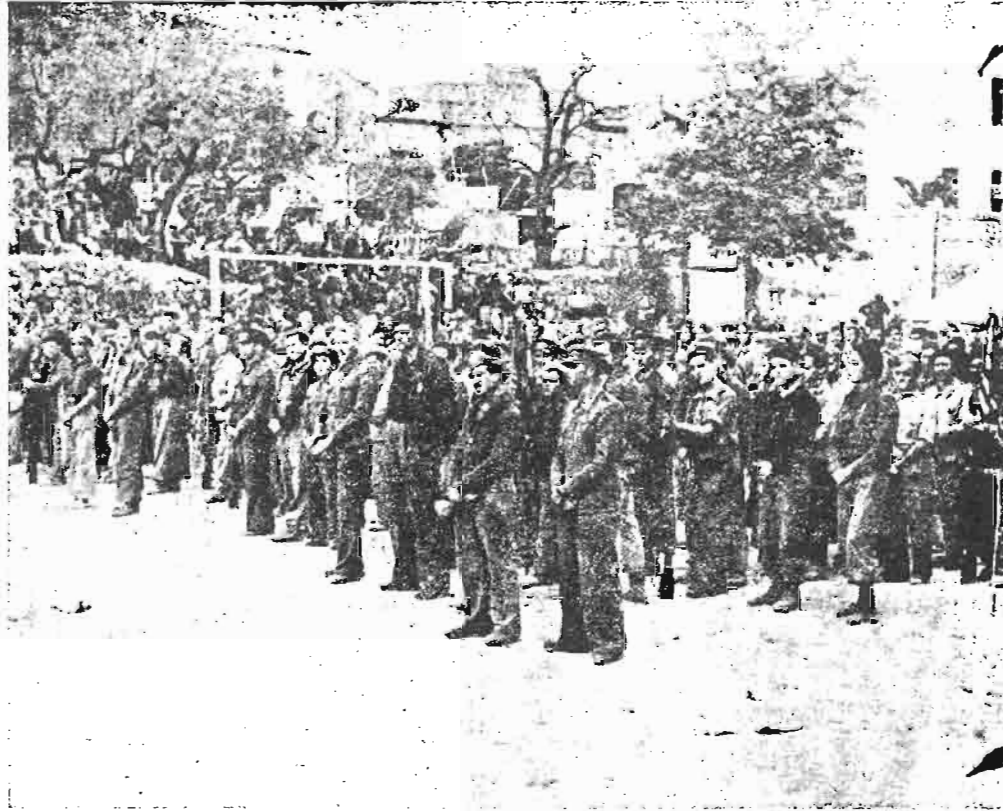
THE GUNNER

The gunner on his crest
Watched the battalions waiting to assault
And saw his friend, relaxed there as if dead
Among the rest.
He'll go at the first shout, the gunner said,
Meantime the waiting makes his mind still
As a watch when it's wound up sometimes will
Until you shake it.
He'll go — I know that fellow well enough,
I shouldn't wonder if the going's tough.
Oh God, the gunner said, I hope he'll make it!
There's that damned fascist rather going again.
Give me another five, Chief, or they'll start
Before we've got it. Give me another five —
I want to see that man come out alive.

Mites Tomalin



Some Officers of the Lincoln-Washington



THE LAST BR

The withdrawal of
from the X

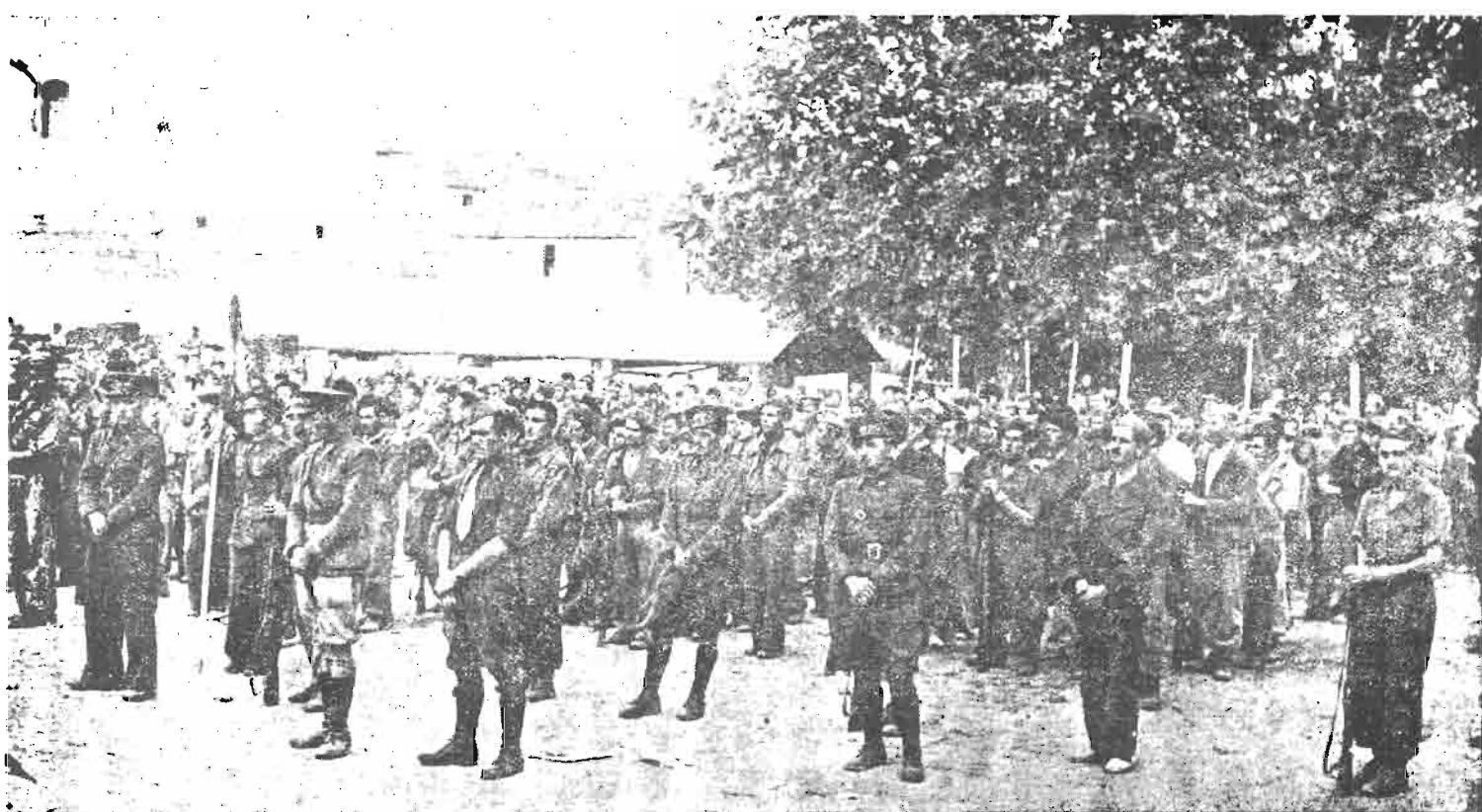
Top center — The Brigade at
farewell parade.

Top left — John Gates, depart-
ing Commissar delivering
his last address to the
troop.

Center left — Officers and so-
me of the trade union dele-
gates at the reviewing stand.

Bottom left — Departing inter-
nationals of the Lincoln
Washington Battalion.





GADE PARADE

the Internationals
/ Brigade

Center, right — The farewell banquet.

Bottom center — Major Malcolm Dunbar, Chief of Staff.

Bottom, right — Departing Internationals of the British Battalion.





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The "Fighting Canucks"

Elsewhere in this issue we publish a short history of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion — a year of fighting and outstanding military achievements that made the «fighting Canucks» known all over Spain. At this time it is well to recall that the record of the Canadian volunteers antedates by far the formation of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion.

The Canadians have been fighting in Spain ever since Jarama, going into action at the same time as the volunteers from United States. The original Lincoln Battalion had a whole section of Canadians at the time it received its baptism of fire in the bitter days of February, 1937.

At Brunete the George Washington Battalion (later merged with the Lincolns) had entered into battle with an entire company of Canadians under the command of Lieut. Yardos from Toronto and it was here that the term «fighting Canucks» originated — bestowed upon the Canadians by their comrades-in-arms as a tribute to their fearless and courageous action.

Neither was the contribution of the Canadians limited to the XV. Brigade alone. Canadians of foreign extraction made up an important contingent of the Dombrowsky, Rakosi and Dimitrov Battalions. The artillery and anti-aircraft, the transport and Sanitary Service have all had their fair quota of Canadians.

Wherever they served they were noted for their devotion, their unswerving loyalty to the antifascist cause — capable, courageous, able and dependable — the hard-hitting «fighting Canucks» the Canadian people can well be proud of.

THE LAST ISSUE

With the present issue the *Volunteer for Liberty* suspends publication. We announce this fact with regret mingled with pleasure — regret over the passing of the magazine that has been so closely tied up with our life here; and the pleasure that arises out of the knowledge that the *Volunteer for Liberty* along with the International volunteers have fulfilled the role assigned to them by History.

The *Volunteer for Liberty* has been a magazine for soldiers by soldiers. It was first published by the Commissariat of War of the International Brigades along with similar publications in French, German, Italian, Czech and Polish on May 24th, 1937, to bring to the volunteers in their own language, an account of the development of the struggle in which they were engaged. All the editors, beginning with Ralph Bates, and followed by Edwin Rolfe, John Tisa, and the present editors have been members of the International Brigades with a record of front service and military experience as were most of our contributors. Our aim was to mirror the shifting scenes of the Spanish struggle and to organize the experiences of its reader-participants in order to equip them better for the battle against fascism.

The role played by the International volunteers is treated fully by Comrade André Marty elsewhere in this issue and it needs no repetition here. It is sufficient to state that the *Volunteer for Liberty* shares the fully confidence of all English



Sorry, Carney, but it just hasn't worked out that way

Going through his pockets your editor found an old clipping which he has long treasured and which was a constant source of enjoyment to him, especially during the Ebro battles.

The clipping is from the New York Times, April 17, 1938, and is a product of the masterly collaboration between our old friends Carney and the Generalissimo. We reproduce it in full, if for no other purpose than to emphasize the military lesson it contains, to wit: It takes two to make a bargain.

INSURGENTS' PLANS OUTLINED

By WILLIAM P. CARNEY

Special cable to The New York Times

VINAROZ, Spain, April 16 — While the Nationalists (Insurgents) consolidated their positions in this sector today their military situation was summarized by one of Generalissimo Francisco Franco's staff officers here.

He said all land communications — namely, telephone, telegraph, railroad and highway connections — between Catalonia and the rest of republican Spain had been severed. The Government's best troops, summoned hastily from Madrid and other fronts to the Catalan front, have been isolated, he declared, and he asserted that the republicans' inability to manoeuvre would make possible the continued destruction of their army bit by bit.

The Maestrazgo region, which is the key to Valencia's defenses, has been lost, it was said, and the republican forces in the Teruel sector are now in a critical position. Thus Sagunto, with its metal works, is threatened, because it is on the direct road from Teruel. Moreover the expected capture of Tortosa will give General Franco control of the Ebro Valley from Saragossa to the sea.

General Franco's troops now occupy a Mediterranean front twelve and a half miles long. The staff officer predicted that this seacoast front would be lengthened almost fifty miles within three days. He declared that all the republican forces in the Tortosa sector were being gradually surrounded and that they would be obliged to flee toward Barcelona before next Tuesday. Madrid, he said, will have to be abandoned soon for lack of food and munitions. The Alicante, Cartagena and Murcia zones will capitulate rapidly when serious operations begin there, he added.

Within a fortnight, the officer declared, General Franco's fleet will have two new Mediterranean bases — Tortosa and Valencia — besides Vinaroz, and soon thereafter, he said, Tarragona will be captured.



Sam Romer of the Mac-Paps, one of the exchanged 14 American prisoner

speaking volunteers in the ability of the heroic Spanish People's Army to measure up to all tasks that it is called upon to face.

In saying farewell to our readers, our comrades-in-arms, we express the hope that the strong bond of comradeship that has grown up between the Internationals from the various countries on the other, will become even stronger as the years pass by, as our fight for liberty, democracy, and peace shifts to other fronts in other lands. The *Volunteer for Liberty* was one of the expressions of this common bond a comradeship baptized by fire and cemented by countless heroic sacrifices. We hope that the *Volunteer for Liberty* will be reborn, and perpetuated in England, in the United States, and Canada as the organ of the veterans of the Spanish struggle, as the expression of our future fight against fascism and war — as a lasting tribute to our heroic dead.

On with the fight, Volunteers of Liberty!

Hasta la victoria final!

SANDOR VOROS, editor.

CAN WE EVER FORGET...

After two years of lying in trenches, bomb-holes under the most difficult conditions, we have had ample time to draw certain conclusions that are flesh of our flesh and paid for by the tremendous sacrifices we have made.

When we came to Spain fascism was something abstract for most of us — something to which we were opposed in principle and because of our democratic traditions. Here in Spain we have learned what Fascism is in reality. We have learned it from contact with other volunteers from Fascist countries. We have learned it from refugees and evaders from the Fascist army. And we have seen it with our own eyes, in Madrid, Barcelona, Híjar, Gandesa and in hundreds of other towns and cities that Fascism is utter savagery, barbarism and destruction. We have learned that Fascism is totalitarian warfare, the slaughtering of hundreds of thousands or millions of innocent men, women, children; the physical extermination of whole nations in order to ensure and perpetuate the rule of a handful of monopoly capitalists and the landed nobility.

We have heard evaders tell us of the terror and atrocities perpetrated on the population by Franco and the Italian and Nazi invaders, of looting, wholesale rape and assassination. We have heard the peasants in the vicinity of Corbera tell us after their liberation how the Fascists in cold blood murdered our Comrades, the Internationals, who had been taken prisoners and shown the spot where many of our unfortunate comrades were buried. Young Spanish recruits, pressed into the Franco army and captured by us told us of the brutality existing in that army and their terror of the Moors who were given free hand to rob, rape and murder without authority daring to oppose them.

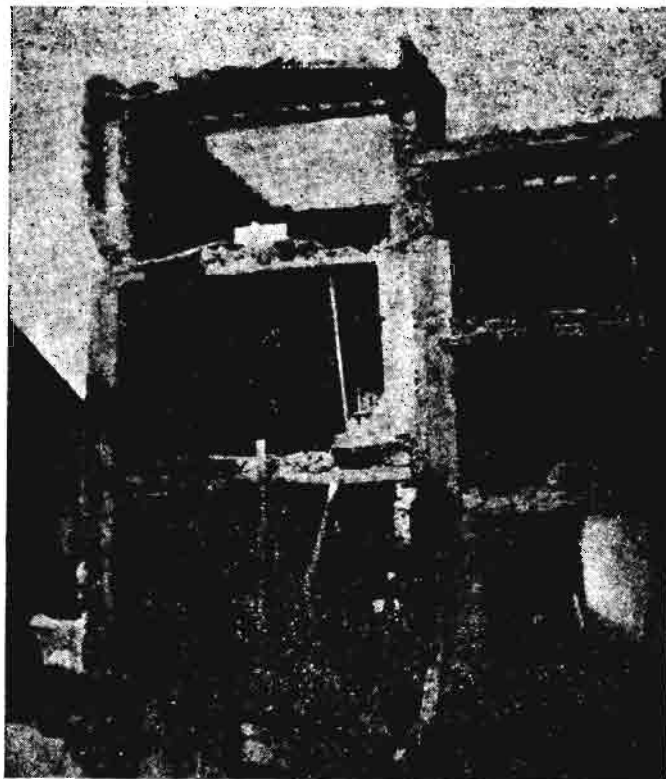
We have learned to laugh at the Fascist leaflets dropped by the millions by the Italian and Nazi planes that brazenly promised «peace and plenty» to the soldiers of the Republic if they came over to the side of their «liberators». We have learned the key to read Fascist propaganda, that «liberation» means enslavement, «peace» means war and destruction, «national awakening» the selling of one's country and one's people in bondage to the highest bidder.

But we have also learned of the power inherent in a brave and proud people who choose death rather than slavery.

We have seen the Spanish people unarmed and unafraid storm the barracks of the rebelling army and at the price of mountains of their dead wrest the power from them in Madrid, Barcelona and all of the principal cities.

We have seen the bands of enthusiastic but poorly organized militiamen develop into a regular army with ample cadres of competent military officers who have risen out of the struggle. A regular

A volunteer draws some conclusions on basis of his experiences here



After the fascist planes visited Corbera

army that was not only capable of the brilliant feat of crossing the Ebro but to maintain its conquest in the face of the bitterest onslaught ever launched by the army of invaders with their superior, and concentrated artillery, aviation and tanks.

We have learned the tremendous capacity of a People's Front government to rally around itself the best that is in a people. The People's Front has shown itself an instrument capable of defending a nation against fascist aggression by uniting the a people behind a common minimum program. Although the path of unity is a hard and tortuous one and its course mostly uncharted, unity in Spain has been developing at an ever increasing pace under the most trying and difficult conditions. Parties and trade unions have all learned to soft-pedal their own special interests for the interests of the entire people as a whole. Those of us who have lived through the agonizing days of the Aragon retreat will never cease to admire how the Government, with its faith unshaken in victory, was able to husband

and mobilize the slender resources of the entire country to carry through a successful policy of resistance which later enabled her to take the initiative at Ebro.

We have seen how a people united can bring forth an amazing number of leaders of outstanding talent and ability in all fields. Pasionaria, Durutti, Lister, Modesto, Campesino, to mention only a few, all bear witness to a genius residing in a people.

We have seen a cultural revival develop while the country was carrying on a war of desperate resistance; we have seen emancipated Spanish women take the place of men in the factories; we have seen Brigades, Divisions and Army Corps setting up and supporting schools and children's homes; we have seen the army and the rear-guard united in mutual help, support and self-sacrifice.

We have felt the treachery of «democratic» diplomacy on our own skin. We knew from experience that whenever there was renewed talk of «Non-Intervention» it signified increased shipments of Italian, German planes, artillery,

tanks and other war material. We knew that whenever the «Non-Intervention Committee» announced progress about the «withdrawal of volunteers» it was equivalent to saying that another convoy of Italian troops and aviators were about to land in Cadiz. We have learned to cut through the maze of diplomatic phrases and to place our faith in the unity of toilers and the strength of our arms.

We have learned to love and respect the heroic people of Spain who have suffered so much and who are determined to sacrifice everything they possess, to fight to the last drop of their blood to free Spain from foreign invasion.

And last, but not least, we have learned the full meaning of International Solidarity. We have fought shoulder to shoulder not only with our Spanish brothers but also with our brothers from 20-30 different countries, speaking 20-30 different idioms, united in our love for freedom and democracy and in our antifascist principles. German and French, English and American, Negro and White, Chinese and Japanese volunteers — we all fought side by side in perfect harmony, each willing to sacrifice his life to bring his wounded comrade lying out in the field back to safety.

We have seen the people in every country in the world collecting aid and supplies for Republican Spain. We have seen them watch our fight and progress with anxious eyes and, due to their effort — and of course also the magnificent fight of the Spanish people and the international volunteers — we have seen a strong sympathy develop for Republican Spain among the common people of all countries.

We have seen all of these and many things more that would take volumes to relate. And out of all we have seen and we have learned the words of Dr. Negrin stand out in bold relief:

«Hear ye well! We know that the triumph of fascism would mean our total extermination. Well, then, we'll be sooner exterminated than let fascism triumph!»

The fate of Spain must be resolved among Spaniards alone...

Ours is a policy of peace on basis of national integrity and reconstruction of Spain.

This is why we have to triumph and why we will triumph.

And we will do it in short order if they (the outside powers) will deal with us justly.

We will do it in months if they don't put obstacles in our way. And we will do it in years if they (the outside powers) will continue to crucify us and asphyxiate us as they have been doing up until now under the pretext of non-intervention! »

JULIUS HENE.

CARING FOR THE WOUNDED AT EBRO

By Dr. Major Wm. PIKE



Dr. William Pike

For more than a month the Sanidad, too, was preparing for the Ebro offensive — extensive instruction in bandaging, carrying the wounded and loading them on ambulances, arresting organizational defects in order to evacuate the wounded more quickly from the front lines, save them hours of suffering and pain and bring them faster to the hospital and life.

When we finally received our orders to move to the Ebro only the most essential material was loaded, all else was left behind in a central depot. When the Brigade began crossing the Ebro at night our system of relays stretched further and further away in a vain effort to maintain contact with the rapidly advancing troops. The wounded, fortunately few in numbers that first day, were brought over the swaying pontoon bridges by hand.

Late that night the bridge for heavy transport was finished — munitions and artillery first. In the early morning the Brigade Sanidad, consisting of two ambulances, coach, a truck loaded with all the sanitary material and an autobus formed part of that clamoring mass which crowded the road that lead in clouds of choking dust to the bridgehead. Hour after hour went by anxiously as we cursed the tanks and ammunition trucks that moved in ahead of us. Then, when the first, faint light of day appeared the horrible news filtered back through the dust to us — the bridge was broken!

The crowded, confused convoy melted away soon after the enemy observation planes appeared. Orders were given for the Sanidad transport to cross as soon as the bridge was repaired or the ferry ran and about three of us left to cross over the foot-bridge. Our task seemed hopeless, no possible means of evacuating the wounded, but we had to contact our forces fighting many kilometres ahead.

Walking, we reached the crossroads where we heard of the advances and, the still more relieving news, that the troops were resting. We captured an ambulance here that we had lost to the Fascists at Teruel. This ambulance functioned a few hours then broke down.

We set up a joint ambulance post with the 13. Brigade, sent runners to apprise the Battalion Doctors of the line of evacuation and returned to the river. That afternoon the road behind the Sanidad Post was cut by a battalion of fascists. Rifle fire cracked all around the Post before the Fascists were dispersed or captured.

At the river temporary arrangements were made to ferry the wounded across and additional relays were posted. Still no ambulances! Back to the Brigade!

Our personnel was strung along the road; they were ordered to the established Post. We had little or no material. Far into the

Dr. Pike has a long record of front line medical service with the International Brigades. He served throughout Jarama as Battalion Doctor with original Lincoln Battalion.

Following a months interval with an American hospital at the Cordoba front he was transferred to the 35. Division where he served in various capacity; first as Adjutant Division Doctor, next as Chief of Services of the Sanidad, and later as provisional Division Doctor. After ten months of that he became General Inspector of the Hospitals of the XV. Army Corps from where he returned to the XV. Brigade as Chief Doctor shortly before the Ebro offensive.

In this article Dr. Pike relates some of the difficulties the Sanitary Service had to overcome to care properly for the wounded during the Ebro offensive and the subsequent counterattacks launched by the fascists.

night we trudged along picking up artolas (litters to carry wounded on mules) and mule carts abandoned by the fleeing fascists. Men were sent to look for mules.

The next afternoon we were able to send our improvised, non-motorized transport into action

ferry broke — it was overloaded with wounded — they heard the descending horror of the whistling shells and they were powerless to move.

But those anxious terrible days were soon over. The line of evacuation was changed, more am-



"Good luck" — Lincoln First Aid Post Gandesa

— four mules, two carts, three artolas. Relays of stretcher-bearers were sent to places where we had no mules to carry the wounded. All available men were utilized. The Army Corps sent over one ambulance. Pitifully inadequate! The wounded kept piling up. All trucks returning from the front were mobilized for the transport of the wounded.

The third day — news that one of our ambulances was being held at the river. No ambulances permitted across the ferry! Loud arguments, threatened arrest but we got the ambulance across.

The wounded suffered greatly. Hour after hour of riding on heavy trucks which vibrated pain through every fibre of their bodies. Then the terrible waiting at the river in the dusty tunnels, trucks rumbling by raising thick clouds of dust which stifled them, the anxious waiting while the grey Italian and German bombers circled overhead, the constant bombing that tore at their straining nerves. Once the cables of the

ambulances arrived, the wounded could be speedily taken from the front line medical posts. But the need for men to carry the wounded became greater than, ever. We had gone into action lacking 75 men — all our available men had been distributed among the battalions. Two weeks of action and then rest, which was not rest, behind the lines.

Attempts were made to disinfect and douche the men under unsatisfactory war conditions. A few days of that and again into line in the Sierra de Pandols — in mountainous rocky soil, steep inclines which left you gasping for air where even the sure-footed mules could not be used. The wounded were often carried on the backs of the stretcher-bearers from the front lines. In places even stretchers could not be used.

More and more relays at shorter and shorter distances were needed. It was back-breaking work; the stretcher-bearers worked themselves to the point of exhaustion. Here Dr. Silbergas, one of the

bravest, was wounded. Dr. Hene, who had been directing the work splendidly in the field, took Silbergas' place as doctor of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion.

The intensity of artillery fire, the lack of natural protection, made the road unsafe for concentrations of vehicles. Only a relay ambulance post made it possible to serve three ambulance posts with four ambulances.

De Sota replaced Lieut. Dega in the English Battalion when the latter was wounded, and did excellent service. The Sanidad force of the Lincoln functioned flawlessly under the able direction of Johnny Simon, Battalion Doctor. Again all available men were used, no one was permitted to be idle. The partially disabled, the slightly sick were utilized as guards, kitchen-helpers, bringing hot food and drinks to the heroically working stretcher-bearers, replacing the able-bodied so they could function further to the front. Those soldiers who could not fight at the front but could drive released our regular chauffeurs who worked faultlessly.

Now the wounded were quickly and efficiently evacuated by the ambulances to the classification post where the bandages were checked for sign of hemorrhage, anti-gangrene and anti-tetanus serum was administered.

Again we went into a well earned rest behind the lines but recalled into action the third day. In the last action the line fell back. Late that night news came to Lieut. Mc. Farquhar in charge of the relay stretcher team that some wounded were lying far ahead, possibly in territory now occupied by Fascists. He quickly organized a rescue squad and penetrated almost two kilometres into a dead land broken now and then by the ominous sound of scraping pick-axes or rattling machine gun wheels. But they brought back the wounded — some on their backs, some on stretchers, a total of six soldiers who undoubtedly would have perished.

Many of the Sanidad gave their lives in this glorious action of the Ebro. Many more were wounded. But they worked well, these and the others who came through unhurt, fitting custodians of the lives of the heroes fighting in front of them.

COMMISSAR NICHOLAS MYER

Nick Myers, Commissar of Co. 1, Mac-Pap Battalion, was wounded in the attack on Ascó by the same shell that laid out Lionel Edwards, the Company Commander.

«I heard it coming», he says, «but I was in a hurry and kept going. I ran a hundred yards before I knew I was hit. Then I saw blood running down my wrist and over my rifle.»

A piece of shrapnel had drilled his upper arm from elbow to shoulder.



Mac-Pap transmission men on march

Like many of the Canadians in Spain, Myers has been a gold-miner, a logger, and a free-lance worker; in the depression years — jumping the freights from one job to the next. He's ran a tractor hitched to a wheat combine, hefted rails and driven spikes for a couple of railroads and served an apprenticeship as a blacksmith. «Blacksmithing is the best job», he avers. «It's hard work, boy! But I love it. If I ever get a chance I'll go back to it.»

Of medium height and lightly, Nick doesn't look much like a Village Blacksmith, but he has the unassuming ways that often go with physical strength and his biceps are more than adequate.

He joined the working-class movement in 1933 in Alberta — his native province — when he was only 15 years old. A little later he landed in a Vancouver jail for three months as a result of a mass unemployed demonstration designed to force the Canadian government to give the workers relief.

«But we got the relief», he exults. «An election was coming up in a few days and they couldn't take it. They set up a government highway project in a hurry and slammed us on it.»

His high point in Spain was at Calaceite, where, acting as Section Leader after the former one was killed, and completely surrounded by enemy, he directed his men in resisting powerful attacks for more than two hours. Six fascist tanks and over 400 infantry

men repeatedly assaulted the hill-top where Nick and his handful held out with few cartridges, no bombs and a defective light maxim.

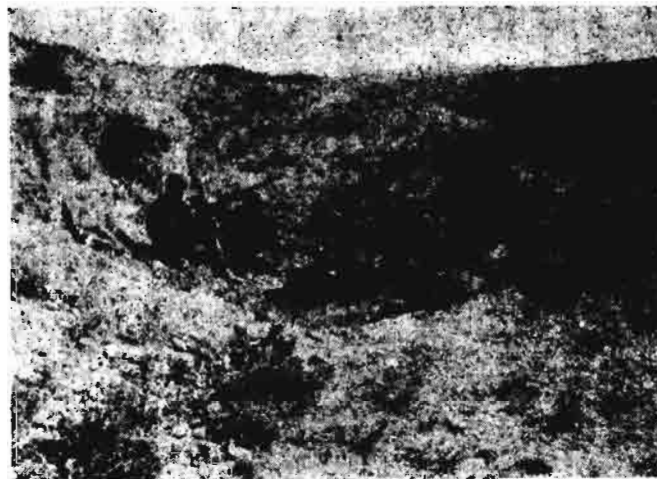
Finally, realizing that the rest of our forces had withdrawn, he ordered his men to break up into small groups and make their way back to our lines. They all got back.

After that he was posted outside Mora de Ebro in charge of a 20 men detail of scouts to warn of the approach of the enemy to the Mora bridgehead.

The detail was armed with new type automatic rifles which only Nick handled before, and supplied with a camion for rapid withdrawal. They stuck until the enemy appeared in force and then — their function performed — dis-



Mac-Paps resting in an olive grove



Siesta behind the lines

lied for the bridge which was blown up as soon as they had passed.

As a Commissar, Nick attributes most his success to «the help of good guys who were able to swing nearly everybody over

to our way of thinking. I was green at the job and at first I figured a Commissar ought to be like a foreman in a lumber camp — a big hefty guy who could lick anybody in his outfit.»



Near Gandesa



Observer - Fuentes de Ebro



A group of soldiers Mac-Pap Battalion

THE WAR IN SPAIN AGAINST THE ITALO-GERMAN ARMY

The war which Spain is carrying on against Italy and Germany, who are aided by the treacherous rebel generals, the Moors and the Portuguese, has forced the Spanish people to undergo a hard trial which is now well in its third year. The tenacious resistance of the Spanish people and their determination to continue fighting with a high morale are due to their desire for the independence of Spain and their enthusiasm for democratic ideas. The entire strength of the Spanish people is based on these sentiments. The Spaniards consider death a lighter burden than living as vassals under Hitler and Mussolini. And this desire for freedom is not felt by the men alone; it is felt by the women also. Even the children are filled with this love for Spain and for freedom. And it is due to this determination that the bombing of the civilian population does not cause discouragement but increases their hatred towards the invaders of their country and inspires them to further deeds of heroism.

Such are the Spanish people and such is the strength of Spain.

When the military uprising took place two years ago, the people rose up and overcame it. The rebellion was quashed. The civil war into which it degenerated would have been over in a few weeks had not Germany and Italy hastened to send huge quantities of war material, technicians and later legions of soldiers to the aid of the rebels. The Spanish people were full of spontaneous enthusiasm, but were not incorporated into a disciplined army — their army had risen against the nation — and their lack of organisation placed them at a great disadvantage when faced by a modernly trained and equipped army.

Of was then that the constructive qualities of the Spanish people were shown. While the Spaniards had to fight without arms against a well-armed force, while the war monopolised all energies, the Spanish Republic was organising a new State. It was building a new order to which the life of the Spanish people in loyalist territory was being adjusted. Thanks to this constructive work, the Spanish people, both soldiers and civilians, are enjoying moral and economic standards hitherto unknown in Spain. A soldier earns ten pesetas a day, as well as food and clothing. With the ten pesetas he can help his family. If he is married, his children are assured of a home in a children's colony. The most lovely country houses in Spain have been converted into children's colonies. Moreover, the factories and other enterprises, as well as the State offices, continue to pay salaries to the workers or employees who are fighting in the Army. The combatant feels that his sacrifice is rewarded, when he sees that the State and Spain in general are looking after his family.

Improvement in Social and Cultural conditions, despite the War.

Improvement in living condition of the Spanish people whose organisation and strength have rendered them capable of resisting for an indefinite period



Potato harvest in Valencia

The Spanish State has met with enormous difficulties in its efforts to feed Spain and to alleviate the suffering which war, and especially war as waged by the Italo-German army, imposes on the Spanish people. Nevertheless these difficulties have been overcome. Cultivation of soil in Spain has been intensified. The system of importing goods has been re-organised and at present a just distribution of food exists. Before the war there were nearly a million unemployed workers in Spain. The Spanish capitalists, who have now sold themselves to foreigners, exported their money and refused to give employment to Spaniards. The workers and peasants lived in dreadful misery. Now, during the war, they live under better conditions than before. In Spain, no one is without food.

The daily wage of the workers is from twenty-five to thirty-five pesetas. Some specialists receive higher wages. In the factories premiums have been established

produce more exists among the workers; the output of the factories is at present much greater than a year ago. The workers work voluntarily for ten and twelve hours daily in the munitions factories. One can give examples such as the foundry at Sagunto, where the workers continue working and increasing their production, although the town where they live has been totally destroyed. Hundreds of the wives and children of these workers have been killed and up to the present the town has undergone more than one hundred and fifty air-raids.

The case of the workers at Madrid is the same. Two kilometres from the trenches they work day and night in the factories and have withstood bombardments during which the foreign invaders, without fear of reprisal, have sometimes dropped more than a thousand bombs in a few hours.

All these workers, like those of Barcelona, who are always menaced by the Italo-German air force, have realised that Spain looks after their families and children. They know that even during the war their life is better and more dignified than before. Their children are educated in schools which before could only be attended by the children of wealthy parents. Boys, although capable of entering high school on completing their elementary education, were in the past obliged to learn some manual trade instead of continuing their studies. Today such boys are studying in the workers' institutes where the State not only pays their board and expenses but also gives them a daily wage equivalent to that which they were earning at their respective trades.

Refugees cared for by the State.

Social welfare does not leave a single soul without protection. The old people who were formerly shut up in dark asylums at present live in small family groups. They are allowed to do any particular work they like such as loo-



Their house destroyed by fascist aviation — but the people carry on



Children at the Mac-Pap festa

king after chickens, vegetables and flower gardens; and the profits of such work go to them themselves.

There are mothers who can cry no more for a child who perished amid the flames caused by a bombardment. One often finds a wo-



Workers in a factory greet a delegation of the XV Brigade

One of the most difficult and dramatic problems brought about by the war is that of refugees. Thousands of families have fled from the villages which are in the hands of the fascists. The Government of the Republic has had to take care of these hundreds of thousands of families, who had escaped from the fascists with nothing more than their clothes which were torn to tatters in their flight across roads and hills. At present there are some two million refugees. All of them are well cared for. The village and town councils in the localities where they have settled down have given a house to all and well paid work to those capable of working. The Government in addition subsidizes all refugees.

The children go to school. At present every child in Spain goes to school.

The tragedy and grief of these refugee families is enormous. They have seen their houses destroyed by bombs. They have seen their furniture, which they had bought at the cost of hard work, destroyed. The greater part of the women wear mourning. There are girls who have lost their fathers. man who has lost six or seven

of her family and who now remains completely alone. This accumulation of unhappiness which surrounds the refugee families would be enough to demoralise an entire nation if it were not inflamed with tremendous vitality, a great spirit of sacrifice and a tremendous feeling of unity between all its



The harvest of oranges

members and a state organisation which is strong and efficient.

People's Restaurants, Co-operatives and Rationing of the Civilian Population.

There is no one entirely without food in Spain. There is a just rationing system for all families organised by the town and village councils. There is also a system of co-operatives which distributes food-stuffs for more than 6,000,000 co-operators.

People's restaurants have recently been established. In order to be admitted into these restaurants it is necessary to have

a work-certificate. There are three types of restaurants gauged according to the different levels of wages. Meals are served for ten pesetas, five pesetas and 2.50 pesetas. The foods is similar in all three. In Barcelona about 100,000 people eat in these restaurants every day. When one figures on thirty pesetas as the average daily wage of a worker, it will be seen that only one-third of this sum is spent on food. The people of Spain have rallied round the Republic. The will for resistance is at present greater than ever. There is a sane and healthy spirit, a spirit of youthfulness. In this people of ideals there is no place for speculators and hoarders. No one can speculate without being pursued by justice and subjected to the contempt of his fellows. This state of things gives rise to contentment inside Spain and is the reason why people are willing to undergo all sacrifices in the assurance that in the end Spain will win her independence. A people who have been able to organise themselves and who show day by day that they are willing to face death can prolong their resistance indefinitely. And the resistance of the Spaniards means additional expense for Italy and Germany which it will be difficult for them to maintain for long. Meanwhile other nations will use this time to prepare themselves militarily so as to be able to confront the two ambitious dictators who want to bring about the downfall of European civilization.



MONUMENT

A Poem from the Spanish Front

By T. H. Wintringham

WHEN FROM THE deep sky
And digging in the harsh earth,
When by words hard as bullets,
Thoughts simple as death,
You have won victory,
People of Spain,
You will remember the free men who fought beside you,
enduring and dying with you, the strangers
Whose breath was your breath.

You will pile into the deep sky
A tower of dried earth,
Rough as the walls where bullets
Splashed men to death
Before you won victory,
Before you freed Spain
From the eating gangrene of wealth, the grey pus
of pride, the black scab of those strangers
Who were choking your breath.

Bring together, under the deep sky
Metal and earth;
Metal from which you made bullets
And weapons against death,
And earth in which, for victory,
Across all Spain,
Your blood and ours was mingled, Huesca to
Malaga; earth to which your sons and strangers
Gave up the same breath.

Bring to the tower, to its building,
From New Castle,
From Madrid, the indomitable breast-work,
Earth of a flower-bed in the Casa del Campo,
Shell-splinters from University City,
Shell-casing from the Telefonica.
Bring from Old Castle, Santander, Segovia,
Sandbags of earth dug out of our parapets
And a false coin stamped in Burgos by a traitor.

Carry from Leon, from the province of Salamanca,
Where the bulls are brave and the retired generals cowards,
From near the Capital of treason and defeat, bring now
Clean earth, new and untouched from the cold hills,
And iron from the gate, that shall now be always open
Of Spain's oldest school, where there shall be young wisdom.
From Extremadura, earth from the bullring
Where they shot the prisoners in Badajoz;
And lovely Zafra shall give one of its silver crosses;
Galicia, sea-sand and ship-rivets. From Asturias
Spoil from the pits that taught our dynamiters
To face and destroy the rearing tanks, and a pit-haft

That has cut coal and trenches, and is still fit for work.
From the Basque country, Bilbao, Guernica,



H. O.

City of agony, villages of fire,
Take charred earth, so burnt and tortured no one
Knows if small children's bones are mingled in it;
Take iron ore from the mines those strangers envied;
And wash your hands, remembering a world that did so.

Navarre shall give a ploughshare and a rock;
Aragon, soil from the trench by the walnut-tree
Where Thaelmann's first group fought towards Huesca,
And steel from a wrecked car lying by a roadside;
Lukacs rode in that car.
Catalonia, Spain and not Spain, and our gateway
(For myself a gateway to Spain and courage and love)
Shall bring a crankshaft from the Hispano factory
And earth from Durrutti's grave;
Valencia, black soft silt of the rice fields, mingled
With soil from an orange-grove-also
Telephone-wire, and a crane's chain.
Murcia, a surgeon's scalpel and red earth;
Andalucia, the vast south, shall pay
The barrel of a very old rifle found in the hills
Beside a skeleton; earth
That the olives grow from.
And Albacete, where we built our brigades:
Knife-steel and road-dust.
Take then these metals, under the deep sky
Melt them together; take these pieces of earth
And mix them; add your bullets,
And memories of death:
You have won victory,
People of Spain,
And the tower into which your earth is built, and
Your blood and ours, shall state Spain's
Unity, happiness, strength; it shall face the breath
Of the east, of the dawn, of the futures when there
will be no more strangers....



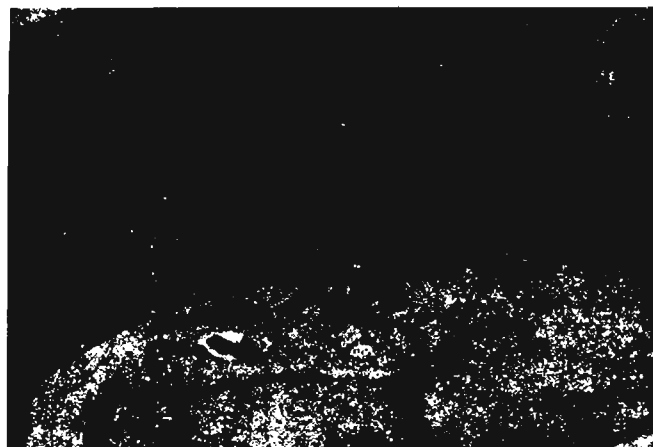
The British on parade



Crossing the Ebro



Brigade fiesta



The Brigade Swimming Hole

Lincolns cited by Brigade, Brigade cited by Division

During the course of the recent action on the Ebro front, both the Lincoln Battalion and the 15th Brigade itself have received citations for the magnificent work done respectively by the two units.

In a special order of the day of August 21st., the Lincolns received commendation for their resistance on Hill 666 in the Sierra Pandols, Signed by Brigade Commander Major Valledor and John Gates, Brigade Commissar, the Lincoln citation reads, in part, as follows:

«The 58th Battalion (Lincoln-Washington) is due praise for its distinguished action during the past days.

«The commanders and commissars have rivaled each other in heroism, side by side with the soldiers, and they have prevented the enemy from advancing a single step.

«Despite the slight protection offered by the trenches and despite the enormous amount of artillery and mortar fire employed by the enemy, it was in no way able to bear the tenacious resistance of our Icomrades. In every case the Battalion repulsed the enemy, causing a great number of casualties with their sure fire.

«This is how Spain is being defended and how the men fulfill the orders of their Command. The

order was for resistance. The Lincoln-Washington Battalion understood its importance and accomplished the order magnificently...

In its own turn the 15th Brigade received the praise of the Division Command when, in an extraordinary order of the day, of September 10th, its activity during the 8th and 9th of September was mentioned.

«This Command, states the Division Order, is duty bound to make known the conscientious conduct in combat of the 11th and

15th Brigades on the 8th and 9th of this month; the first for its bravery in the attack, and the second for its self sacrifice in the defense. Both have lived up to their magnificent tradition of sacrifice and victory. For this reason this Command congratulates the above mentioned units, praising their outstanding conducts.

The Order is signed by the Commander of the Sector, Merino, and by the Commissar Delegate of War, José María Sastre.

Internationals promoted on eve of departure

On the eve of their departure from Spain a number of International military officers of the XV Brigade were promoted by the 35 Division. The list includes:

Mack, Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion;

Lieut. Dr. Julius Hene, Adjutant, Brigade Doctor;

Lieut. Jack Cooper, Special Machine Gun Company.

Promoted to Majors:

Captains Malcolm Dunbar, Chief of Staff, and Radimir Smrcka, Chief of Information of the Brigade;

Capt. Sam Wild, Commander British Battalion;

Cap. Milton Wolff, Commander Lincoln-Washington Battalion;

Capt. Dr. William Pike, Chief of Brigade Sanidad.

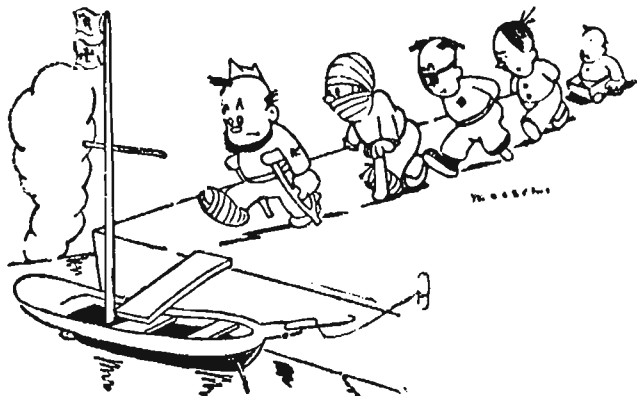
Promoted to Captains:

Lieutenants Howard Goddard, Chief of Operations, and Owen Smith, his Adjutant;

Lieut. John Power, British Battalion;

Lieut. Don Thayer, Lincoln-Washington Battalion;

Lieut's Gunnar Libb, Lionel Edwards and Henry



Mussolini retires some of his volunteers

You cant' keep a good man down

We are indebted to the Chicago Daily Tribune for the following delicious item:

The sister of an American who was fighting in Spain with the loyalists and who now is a prisoner in one of Franco's detention camps received the following:

The living conditions are fine, the food is plentiful and good and we are considerably treated. Utsnay.

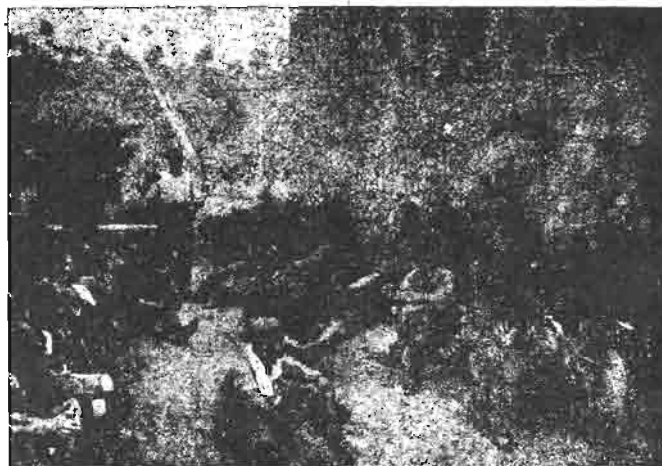
It got by the censor.

Because of error the issue of the "Volunteer" previous to this one was mistakenly numbered 23, when it should have been 24. We correct this oversight by giving this issue its proper number 26.

From the Brigade's Photo Album



Factory workers with a delegation from the Brigade



Transmission men



At the Activists' congress



Topography department



Brigade wall-paper



Watching the fiestas